

'Read my lips' pledge abandoned

Bush forced to concede tax increases

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush, facing a spiralling budget deficit, yesterday abandoned the "Read my lips: no new taxes" pledge that helped him to the White House in 1988.

He said "tax revenue increases" would have to form part of an urgently-required package to reduce the budget deficit for 1991.

The announcement came after six weeks of fruitless negotiations between the Republican administration and leaders of the Democrat-controlled Congress. There had also been a flurry of behind-the-scenes talks over the weekend. Yesterday the president fielded a breakfast meeting with congressional leaders before making his statement, after which Wall Street stock and bond markets rose sharply.

Democrats, long allied with the "tax-and-spend" label, had been determined that the White House should be the first to propose tax increases in this mid-term election year. Their leaders said they agreed with the president's proposal, and spoke of a breakthrough in America's decade-long struggle to control its budget deficit.

"We believe the statement speaks for itself," said George Mitchell, Democrat leader of the Senate, who declined journalists' invitations to gloat at the president's climb-down. Nonetheless, the statement appears likely to rob the Republicans of one of their greatest electoral advantages.

The White House has increased its forecast of the 1991 budget deficit four times this

year because of higher interest rates and lower-than-expected revenues because of falling corporate profits.

The estimate given by Richard Darman, the White House budget director, last week is \$160 billion compared with \$100 billion in January, and that figure does not include the \$60 or \$70 billion that will be required next year to bail out the insolvent US Savings and Loan industry.

Under legislation designed to cut the deficit, the ceiling for next year is \$64 billion. To cut the projected deficit by the amount necessary to comply with that would invite economic recession. On the other hand, failure to meet it would trigger automatic spending cuts in federal programmes of around \$94 billion at the start of the 1991 fiscal year on October 1. In abandoning his campaign pledge, Mr Bush evidently concluded that recession and/or drastic cuts in federal programmes would be far more politically damaging.

Mr Bush's three-paragraph statement read: "It is clear to me that both the size of the deficit problem and the need for a package that can be enacted require all of the following: entitlement and mandatory programme reform; tax revenue increases...to ensure any bipartisan agreement is enforceable and that the deficit problem is brought under responsible control."

A genuine deficit reduction package would require "growth incentives, discretionary spending reductions, orderly reductions in defence expenditures, and budget process reform," he said.

It was not immediately clear whether his reference to increased tax revenues referred to income tax or to other taxes, and Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, refused to elaborate. "We are not willing to give it any definition. That's a matter for the negotiators," he said. Options include raising top-level income tax only, raising corporate taxes, new energy taxes, increased taxes on tobacco and alcohol and even the introduction of a value-added tax as exists in 19 of the other 23 main industrialised nations.

The so-called "budget summit" between Congress and the White House will resume this week with both sides now expecting to make substantial progress. There may still be sticking points. Mr Bush's

statement referred to "growth incentives", shorthand for the capital gains tax cut he favours and Democrats oppose. He also referred to "budget process reform", indicating that the administration would press for a relaxation of the 1991 deficit ceiling and putting back the date by which a balanced budget is supposed to be achieved.

Mr Fitzwater said Mr Bush was comfortable with his decision and argued that it was necessary to revive the stalled budget talks. The statement represented "a feeling by both sides that we want to move together". He pointed out that the administration's original budget proposal in January had suggested \$13 billion in tax increases, although on the administration had then referred not to taxes but to "user fees". Last week Mr Darman presented another \$51 billion administration deficit-cutting package that made no mention of tax increases.

Mr Fitzwater sidestepped questions about Mr Bush's past insistence that raising taxes stifled economic growth.

Mr Bush's pledge not to raise taxes was the centrepiece of his presidential campaign against Michael Dukakis in 1988. Announcing his candidacy in Houston on October 27 1987, he declared: "There are those of you who say we must balance the budget on the back of the workers, and raise taxes again. They are wrong. I am not going to raise your taxes - period."

Accepting the Republican nomination in New Orleans on August 18, 1988, he said: "The Congress will push me to raise taxes, and I'll say no, and they'll push, and I'll say no, and they'll push again, and I'll say to them: 'Read my lips: no new taxes.'"

The first sign that he was being forced to back away from that pledge came last month when the administration agreed to enter budget talks with Congress with no preconditions.

Democratic leaders refrained from seeking political advantage from Mr Bush's reversal yesterday lest they were seen as being enthusiastic about tax increases.

Tom Foley, the House Speaker, said: "I think it is important that neither political party attempted to make political capital out of serious bipartisan efforts to reach a budget agreement."

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Schools not ready for '92

A report by HM inspectorate yesterday concluded that schools are ill-equipped to meet the demands of the National Curriculum and the 1992 single European Act.

A survey of 25 schools indicated that teachers did not have adequate knowledge of modern languages, which will become compulsory for pupils from the age of 11. Page 2

BMA lifts ban

The British Medical Association, reversing its ban on surrogacy arrangements, suggested yesterday that some doctors may wish to draw up lists of women willing to bear children for infertile couples. Page 3

TV stations plea

Regional television stations are asking the government to subsidise some of the smaller companies such as Ulster and Border to stop them disappearing when the new franchises are allocated. Page 6

Lusaka riots

Riot police were out in force on the streets of Lusaka yesterday as violence rocked the Zambian capital for the second day. Rioters were protesting at the increased price of maize meal. Page 9

Cash pay-back

The European Commission is expected today to decide how much compensation British Aerospace should pay back over the Rover takeover and to give its decision on the British Airways, Sabena, and KLM tie-up. Page 23

Match drawn

Lamb scored 84 not out for England in the drawn second Test match against New Zealand at Lord's. Page 44

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End of a dream: A dejected McEnroe walking away after his ignominious defeat

Surprise defeat for McEnroe

By LOUISE TAYLOR

JOHN McEnroe lost both his temper and his touch to supply the first real surprise of Wimbledon yesterday, losing in straight sets to Derrick Rostagno in the first round.

The three times Wimbledon winner and number four seed succumbed 5-7, 4-6, 4-6 to his fellow American, who is ranked 129th in the world. Along the way McEnroe displayed several line calls in characteristic fashion, but his tennis was anything but typical of a former champion.

Up against the power game presented by the 6ft 1in player from Los Angeles, McEnroe, aged 31, looked distinctly rusty, possibly a legacy of a four-month lay-off during the winter because of injury.

Rostagno, aged 24, an economics graduate from Stanford University who is of mixed Argentinian and Italian descent, took just under two-and-a-half hours to extinguish McEnroe's dreams of a fourth Wimbledon title.

Sara Gomer, the 26-year-old Devon player, knocked out Manuela Maleeva, the eighth seed, 6-2, 6-3. Jo Durie, the former British number one went out in three sets to Anke Huber, of West Germany.

Thatcher in line, page 10

Sport, page 46

Club bomber may have been filmed

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA terrorist who planted the bomb which wrecked part of the Carlton Club in London on Monday, injuring seven people, may have been filmed by a camera on the building's facade.

As the IRA yesterday admitted responsibility for the bombing police disclosed they were examining film from the camera above the entrance.

The bomb, containing between 10 lb and 15 lb of explosives and either wrapped up to resemble a parcel or placed in a bag, was left just outside the second of the two entrance doors. Anyone entering or leaving is filmed by the camera.

In a Commons statement,



Churchill-Coleman: only seconds to place bomb

The prime minister, who visited the scene of the blast immediately after the Dublin conference of European Community leaders ended, described those responsible as "depraved and evil criminals".

Commander George Churchill-Coleman, head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad, said: "The bomb would have taken a matter of seconds to place and very little in the way of security can prevent that sort of reckless, opportunistic attack."

Lord Whitelaw, the club's chairman, said the building would be repaired quickly to show the terrorists "they cannot win".

● Dutch police said last night that they would be charging three more IRA suspects over the murders of two Australian lawyers in Belgium last month.

Political motive, page 2

246 England supporters are deported from Italy

From JOHN GOODBODY IN RIMINI

ITALY deported 246 England football supporters yesterday, most of them protesting their innocence after a street battle with police and local residents. It is believed to have been the biggest peacetime deportation in Italian history, and certainly the largest single expulsion order ever served on England's followers.

The incident provoked UEFA, the governing body of European football, to warn that hopes of English clubs being readmitted to European competition next season, after a five-year ban, had suffered a setback.

The supporters, who had been held in prisons overnight, were flown to Gatwick last night in an Alitalia Airbus, chartered and paid for by the Italian government. Almost all of them were without passports, money and luggage.

They had been staying on the Adriatic coast, 80 miles from Bologna, the venue of England's match against Belgium last night, because there was plenty of cheap accommodation and no alcohol ban.

Fifty police travelled to Gatwick with the supporters, who have been barred from Italy for the rest of the World Cup, which ends on July 8.

Officers admitted yesterday that some of those being deported were innocent, but police chiefs argue that the innocent should not be in the vicinity when violence is liable to erupt.

Richard de Angelo Aldino, the owner of the Rose and Crown pub, the oldest British pub in Italy, said some supporters had deliberately set out to cause trouble. Although many had been drinking heavily several troublemakers were sober.

As local Italians began driving the streets waving flags

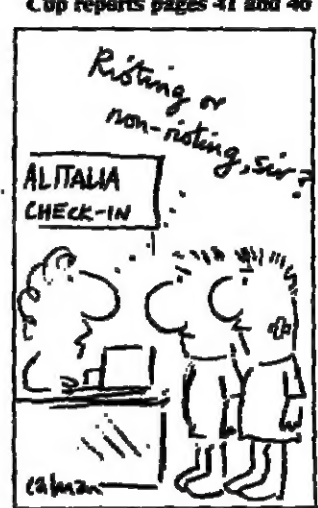
and honking horns in the traditional manner after their country's 2-0 victory over Uruguay, some of the English began throwing glasses and bottles at the vehicles. Cars were damaged and more bottles thrown in a two-hour waterfront battle with police.

In Sweden, Leopart Johansson, the president of UEFA, said: "This is terrible news to me; this turns the clock back. This'll not help English teams to make a fast return to the European competitions. I do not think we should hurry up the issue of England teams making a European comeback."

Colin Moynihan, the sports minister, condemned "the mindless selfishness of the criminally motivated minority of so-called England fans".

● Violence warning: Tom Pendry, the Labour MP, warned last night that, unless the government amended recent legislation to combat hooliganism, English troublemakers could repeat their violence in the United States in four years' time.

Cup reports pages 41 and 46



Stiffer Heysel terms

From PETER GUILFORD IN BRUSSELS

A BELGIAN appeal court yesterday increased the jail sentences imposed on 11 Liverpool football supporters convicted of manslaughter for their part in the Heysel riot in which 39 people died five years ago.

Another two had their sentences confirmed and John Davis, the 14th convicted last year, was acquitted. Alan Woodray, the only defendant present to hear the judgment, was also the only fan with a stiffer sentence to be granted bail. The judge ordered the arrest of the other ten: their

extradition would now be examined.

Judge Pierre van de Walle said the sentences had been stiffened because the future of football was threatened by the level of violence, the clear lack of remorse among some of the fans and the extent of the tragedy.

"Football stadiums are sports grounds and not battle-grounds," he said, adding that if the Liverpool fans were not severely punished, there would be a danger that one of the world's most popular games would be suppressed.

Cleaning up at the GDR closing-down sale

From ANNE MCELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

THE sweating assistant in the dry cleaners in the well-heeled suburb of Pankow was furious with the horde of customers displaying a sudden preoccupation with the cleanliness of their wardrobes.

"Of course, you all had to have your winter coats cleaned in June. Hauled that one down from the attic have you?" she berated the snaking queue incongruously clutching armfuls of winter garments in the clammy sunshine.

A guilty shuffling of feet and bouts of coughing ensued. All East Berliners have been caught up in the shopping spree of the last days of the Ostmark and what is in effect the closing-down sale of the German Democratic Republic. After Sunday the simple things in life, which was about all one could

get in East Germany, will cost twice as much.

For East German shoppers clutching their first allowance of DM2,000 at parity exchange rate, they will also be sacrificing "proper money" for the first time as opposed to the "alu-chips" or "shrapnel" that they term their own wobbly currency.

"So what?" said one housewife with a trolley stacked high with washing powder as she tottered to the checkout. "I am damned if I will spend my first Deutschmarks on anything this boring."

Shops are packed with customers indulging in what has come to be known as "hamster buying" of the boring essentials, while dreaming of the luxury of cassette recorders, second-hand cars and a holiday spent outside the Eastern bloc for the first

time. The queues at petrol stations move at snail's pace as every driver fills up old tanks and containers as well as their Trabis. Even the opticians and dentists are suddenly popular as the necessary evils appear more attractive when obtained for Ostmarks. All hope of a haircut before Sunday is in vain.

Outside the banks, queues continue to grow despite the opening hours of 6am to 10pm. East German newspapers have also started to carry advertisements from private money-lenders who will top up the bank accounts of the less well-off so that they can reach the 4,000-mark ceiling (6,000 for pensioners) that East Germans will be allowed to change at one-for-one.

The Cubans, Vietnamese and Korean guest workers whom nobody

much wanted to know before are bewildered to find themselves courted by their workmates in the hope that they will have spare capacity in their bank accounts that can be loaned out at an agreed price to East Germans with a surfeit of Ostmarks.

The dingy supermarkets still bearing the command economy name of "Buying Halls" before being sold off to Western investors are already stripped of anything but the least appetising foodstuffs, with rows of Bulgarian pickled cabbage stretching into the distance.

"You would think Sunday was the end of the world," said a check-out girl dolefully. "Maybe not," replied her sole customer, "but it is the end of the GDR."

Berliners campaign, page 10

THE THINKING PERSON'S GUIDE TO RETIREMENT

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BMA annual meeting

Doctors lift ban on helping with surrogate births

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE British Medical Association yesterday reversed its ban on doctors taking part in surrogate arrangements, and suggested that some may wish to draw up lists of women willing to bear children for infertile couples. But it said such arrangements should be regarded as a last resort.

Guidelines approved at the association's annual meeting in Bournemouth say it is impossible to prevent doctors being involved in surrogacy procedures, particularly as the government did not intend to outlaw the practice. But they add: "Only after intensive investigation and counselling and very much as a last resort should this practice be used to overcome the infertility problem of a couple."

Commercial surrogacy, where a third party acts as a broker, is illegal, but non-commercial arrangements are allowed. As many surrogacy arrangements either involve

artificial insemination or in vitro fertilisation techniques, more doctors are becoming involved.

Speakers made clear yesterday that the association was not in favour of surrogacy, but accepted that safeguards were needed for doctors who wished to participate. The new guidance supercedes the 1987 ruling that doctors should not take part in surrogacy arrangements until the BMA had agreed ethical controls.

The guidelines recommend that doctors should consider women as potential surrogate mothers only if they have a partner and a child. The commissioning couple and the surrogate mother should never know each other's identity. The report also makes clear that doctors should be fully advised of the legal arrangements. Doctors should not help in a surrogacy if they have any doubt that the couple intend to adopt, have

taken legal advice and have been told that there is no apparent obstacle to their doing so.

It also emphasises that a doctor has no obligation to advise on finding a surrogate mother or on the fees that she may charge. However, an appendix to the report suggests that some doctors may draw up a list of women who are prepared to be surrogates.

"Surrogacy is going to go ahead whether we like it or not, and doctors will be asked to help," Sir Malcolm Macnaughton, chairman of the working party that drew up the guidelines, said. "But if a doctor does not wish to take part in the arrangements, he does not need to."

David Watts, a GP from Ayrshire and a member of the working party, said it was vital to agree guidelines where the child's interest was paramount before a market developed in surrogacy arrangements. "The BMA has not come out in favour of surrogacy. The guidelines have been designed to prevent surrogacy being carried out in secret and to ensure the child is rescued from legal limbo."

Ralph Lawrence, a GP from Derby, opposed the report's advice that surrogate mothers should not meet the commissioning parents. "Secrecy is the root of possible abuse and exploitation," he said. "It is essential for the commissioning couple and the surrogate mother to have complete confidence in each other. The procedure should be open and above board." If the surrogate mother knew the parents and was confident that they would look after the child properly, she would be more likely to hand over the baby "in what should be a really happy event" and less likely to suffer bereavement emotions.

Lotte Newman, a GP from London, said it was vital for the child to be told as early as possible that he or she was the result of a surrogate birth, but the painful decision to hand over the child should be final. "There should be no further opportunity for the surrogate mother to change her mind and think of kidnapping the child from the commissioning mother."

John Dawson, head of the BMA's scientific and professional division, emphasised later that every doctor had the right to be a conscientious objector, but he did not have the right to impose that objection on a patient. When a doctor did not approve of the practice of surrogacy, he would be obliged to refer his patient to a doctor who was prepared to help with these arrangements.

Survey on action over long hours

By Our SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

JUNIOR doctors may take industrial action over long working hours later this year if a personal survey shows there is sufficient support for the move, doctors' leaders said yesterday.

The British Medical Association's (BMA) annual representative meeting voted in favour of carrying out a postal survey of the 28,000 junior doctors in the United Kingdom to find out whether or not to use industrial action to reduce working hours. The meeting was told a survey of 161 doctors in Derby had shown that, although only 7 per cent were in favour of strike action, three out of four doctors were prepared to take some form of industrial action. A total of 70 per cent of those surveyed said they would support and overtime ban, although they would provide emergency cover.

Doctor Graeme McDonald, chairman of the junior doctors' committee, said the industrial action proposed ranged from an all-out strike to a ban of routine admissions, a work to rule and boycott of administrative and clerical duties, such as filling in forms and arranging beds for patients.

Dr McDonald said that, once the postal survey was carried out, a decision would have to be made by the BMA council over whether or not to conduct a formal ballot on industrial action. He said that,

although he doubted doctors would support a move for all-out strike action, it was possible that some form of industrial action could take place later this year.

Junior doctors voted to conduct a survey last month, but were advised that it had to be approved by the full BMA to comply with employment legislation. Yesterday's vote proved there was overwhelming support among all doctors for their case, Dr McDonald said.

If industrial action were to go ahead, it would be the first time juniors will have taken action since the early 1970s, when they refused to admit routine admissions in a dispute over new contracts. Dr McDonald said: "The last thing we would want to do is to risk people's lives and well-being, but our patients are already being put at risk. Doctors are so tired that patients and their relatives are not getting the caring service they deserve."

Junior doctors said yesterday that they were "bitterly disappointed" at the government's lack of progress in improving their working conditions and securing legislation for a maximum 72 hour working week, with a maximum of 36 hours continuous work. "We have had endless talks, endless discussions and endless prevarications," Dr McDonald said.

Family planning cuts threat

By THOMSON PRENTICE, SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

CUTS at family planning clinics could lead to more unwanted pregnancies and abortions, the Family Planning Association says in a report published today.

A survey of the clinics in Greater London shows that their services have been cut substantially in the past two years. The trend is likely to increase in severity as a result of the government's health service reforms, the report says.

The clinics are suffering shortages of doctors, nurses and administrative staff, with services for young people particularly affected. Specialist clinics dealing with vasectomies, intra-uterine contraceptive devices, cervical smears and psycho-sexual problems have also suffered heavy losses, according to the report.

More than half the health authorities in London have cut family planning services to reduce costs, compared to a

national average of one in four authorities.

Doreen Massey, director of the association, said yesterday: "Politicians seem to agree that the number of unwanted pregnancies and abortions must be reduced, yet health authorities are closing our clinics and cutting sessions. We believe there is a direct link between cuts in



Massey: warning over abortion figures

family planning services and the abortion rate." Greater London has an abortion rate of 28.3 per thousand women aged 15 to 44, compared to 15.3 for the whole of England and Wales.

The report says the cuts are based on the "false but prevalent belief" among health authority managers that family planning services duplicate those provided by general practitioners. It argues that the clinic services should be maintained as an essential part of the health service in line with government policy that patients should have the choice between a clinic or their GP.

The report says there is widespread anxiety and frustration among staff. "The implications of this lowering morale pose serious questions concerning the quality of services provided."

Family Planning Clinic Cuts (the Family Planning Association, 27-35 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7RJ; £7.50)

Wimbledon lures US crime syndicates

By MARK SOUSTER

ORGANISED crime from the east coast of the United States has moved into the lucrative black market ticket business at Wimbledon, a senior official at the tournament said yesterday.

Crime syndicates squeezed out of New York have turned to Britain, with its lax legal restrictions on selling tickets. Peter Jackson, the chairman of the Wimbledon tickets sub-committee, said the tournament was working in close co-operation with the police to confront the new threat.

"We have every indication that people who were active in touting in New York, and who were licensed out of these activities along with the whole of the east coast of the USA, have moved their attention across the Atlantic because there are very large sums to be made."

It is impossible to know how much tickets make from Wimbledon, but estimates vary from £1 million to several million pounds. A pair of tickets for the men's final this year can cost up to £3,000. Potential profits are immense and virtually risk-free in this country,

where, touting is not an offence. In America tough new regulations mean tickets can only be sold by licensed agents. This has all but eliminated the problem there and is a system Wimbledon would like to see adopted here.

Mr Jackson was speaking at the latest attempt to curb tout activity at major events was made in the House of Commons. Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrat sports spokesman, introduced a private member's bill which proposed the introduction of licenses for agencies in Britain. Because of the lack of parliamentary time, the bill has no chance of becoming law.

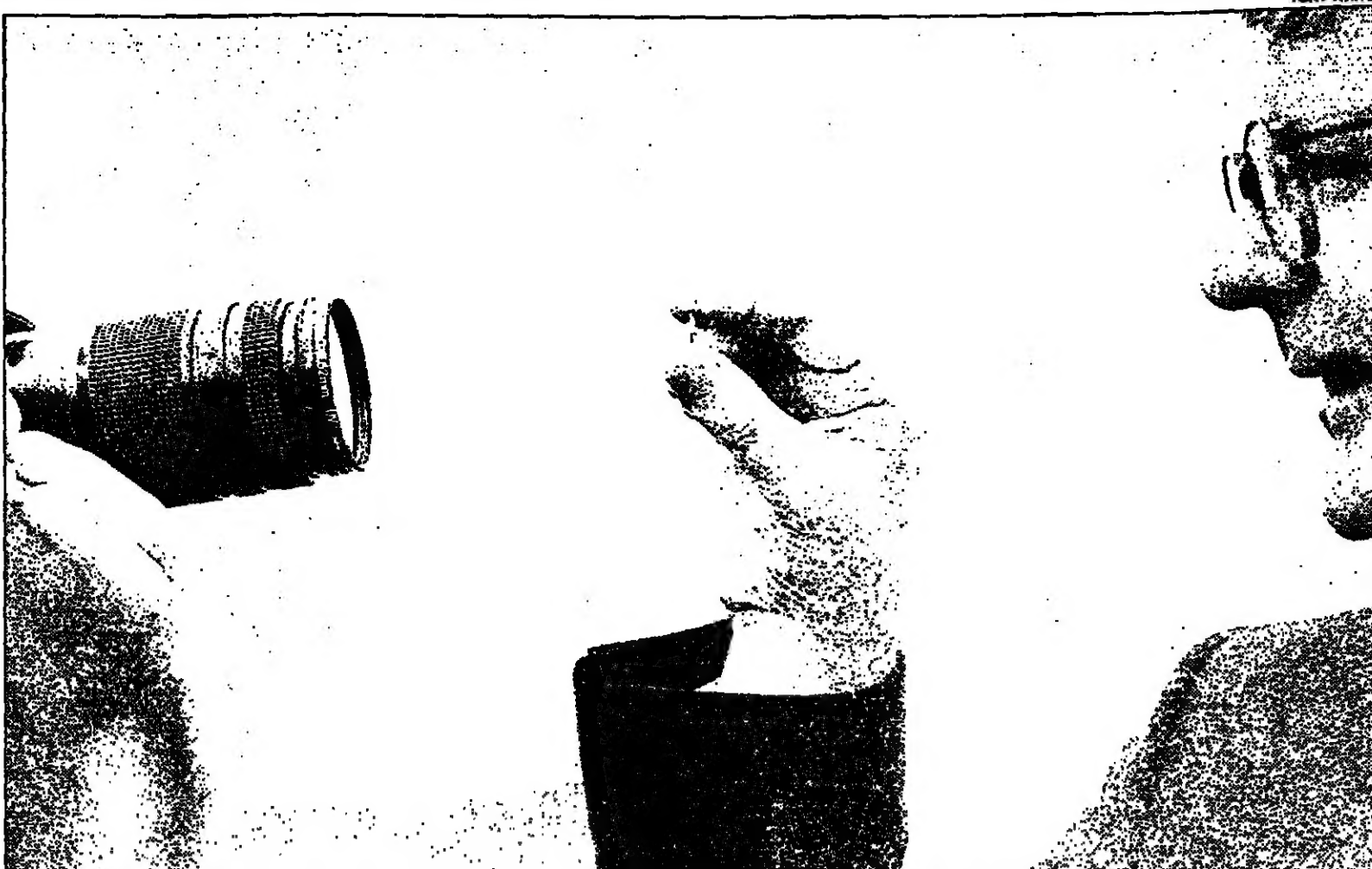
Mr Jackson said that in recent years hundreds of tickets had been stolen in the post. He said they were no longer mailed locally and were sent in plain envelopes. The Rugby Football Union had taken similar precautions at Twickenham. The main source of tickets for touts is the annual ballot which, he said, provided 67 per cent of the tickets which find their way onto the black market. Mr Jackson, however, denied that 15 per

cent or 60,000 of the 400,000 tickets sold each year ended up in the wrong hands.

In a separate attempt to thwart the touts, Wimbledon last year created its own "white market" for the re-sale of debenture tickets. This policy has been a huge success, he said. Under the scheme the authorities will buy a pair of unwanted final tickets for £920 rather than see them fall into the wrong hands. These are then sold on to hospitality companies for their clients who would otherwise turn to the black market.

More than 100 touts were yesterday conducting business around Wimbledon. One of them, Nigel Cooper, from south London, said business was poor because of the World Cup and the fact that companies were cutting back on their hospitality budgets. He admitted the white market policy could effect profitability in the long term, but said he expected to sell 50 pairs of tickets this year, less than in 1989 and with a downturn in profits of 25 per cent.

Wimbledon reports, pages 45 and 46



A closer look: John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, presents the new 5p piece for examination. The coin (real size, left), which comes into circulation today, bears the same design as the existing piece but it is distinguished by milled edges. The piece is about the same size as the old sixpenny bit and weighs only 3.25 grams. Mr Major will launch the coin by tossing it to decide who bats first in the Surrey-Middlesex match at the Oval this morning. Old 5p coins will remain legal tender until New Year's Eve.

EC court to rule in pension law case

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A WOMAN, aged 67, who claims English pension law discriminates against women is to take her case to the European Court of Justice after the High Court yesterday held that it raised "important issues" of European law.

The test case, likely to have further repercussions for pension law and the question of unequal retirement ages, was referred to the European Court in Luxembourg by two High Court judges.

Mrs Florence Smithson, a former nurse in poor health, claims British rules deny her benefits for which a man "in precisely similar circumstances" would be eligible. The court will have to decide whether a woman's inability to claim higher pension premium between the ages of 65 and 70 is contrary to European law.

Second, it will determine whether a woman should be entitled to "de-retire" and claim an invalidity pension after her 65th birthday. Recipients of an invalidity pension are one of the categories eligible for the higher pensioner premium. Normal pensioners do not qualify.

Lord Justice Neill said a man of Mrs Smithson's age and state of health could obtain a higher rate of benefit by "de-retiring" and claiming an invalidity pension instead of a retirement pension. The case, he said, raised "important issues" of European law. "The only satisfactory solution is to refer the matter to the European Court of Justice."

Men may get the higher rate by "de-retiring" before they reach the age of 70. Under British rules, women may only do so before their 65th birthday.

When the case comes before the European court Mrs Smithson will seek a declaration that parts of the Social Security Act 1975 unlawfully discriminate against women. If she wins her case, parliament will be forced to review the rules on higher pensioner premiums. Doubt may even be cast on the legality of the five-year difference between retirement ages for the sexes.

The referral to Luxembourg follows several recent court rulings which all strengthen the case for equalising state pension ages.

Young linguists left tongue-tied ...

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

SCHOOLS are ill-prepared to meet the demands of the 1992 single European act and of the national curriculum, HM inspectorate said yesterday.

Many modern language teachers have an inadequate grasp of their subject. Some can do no more than model a limited number of expressions and ask simple questions, the survey of 25 urban schools in England found.

The inspectors say lessons should be conducted in the language being taught, but some teachers used English most of the time because their pupils could not understand more than farewells and greetings.

Ten of the schools visited were less than satisfactory, with two judged to be poor. Teachers were said to make too few demands on pupils and were criticised for failing to interest and involve the children. There was also a failure to establish a proper working atmosphere. In many lessons, pupils were ignorant of basic vocabulary, had poor pronunciation and made little if any observable progress.

In one school, a class of 13-year-olds made wild guesses in

English about the meaning of French words. In another, 15-year-olds of average ability could produce few answers to questions on food and drink and failed to understand the different tenses used.

"Many pupils," said the inspectors, "clearly expected to speak English to the teacher. When they were required to answer questions in the foreign language their responses were hesitant, brief and poorly-pronounced. In a considerable number of les-

sons, there was little or no attempt to correct errors made by pupils in speaking the foreign language."

The inspectors conclude: "It is particularly disturbing that nearly half the lessons seen had shortcomings in important areas."

To meet the demands of the single European act of 1992 and the national curriculum, schools will have to develop positive attitudes to the teaching of a modern language to a wide range of pupils, have

higher expectations of what pupils can achieve, improve teaching skills, particularly using the language in the classroom, and provide a better selection of material to meet the needs of the pupils.

In a separate report, the inspectorate said that history lessons for A level students could be dull and unvaried in poor quality classes. Some teachers relied too heavily on dictated notes. There was little discussion and some questions were designed only to test factual recall.

The report on sixth-form history teaching said: "Classes tended to be dominated by the teacher and few opportunities were provided for the development of skills. The emphasis was very much on imparting knowledge and recalling it. There was no evidence, however, that work of this kind gave the best examination results."

The inspectors, who looked at 26 schools and colleges last spring, concluded that although few lessons were outstanding, most were satisfactory or good.

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◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ YOU WATCH, WE LISTEN ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

SPEND
FRIDAY NIGHTS
BEHIND
THE SOFA.

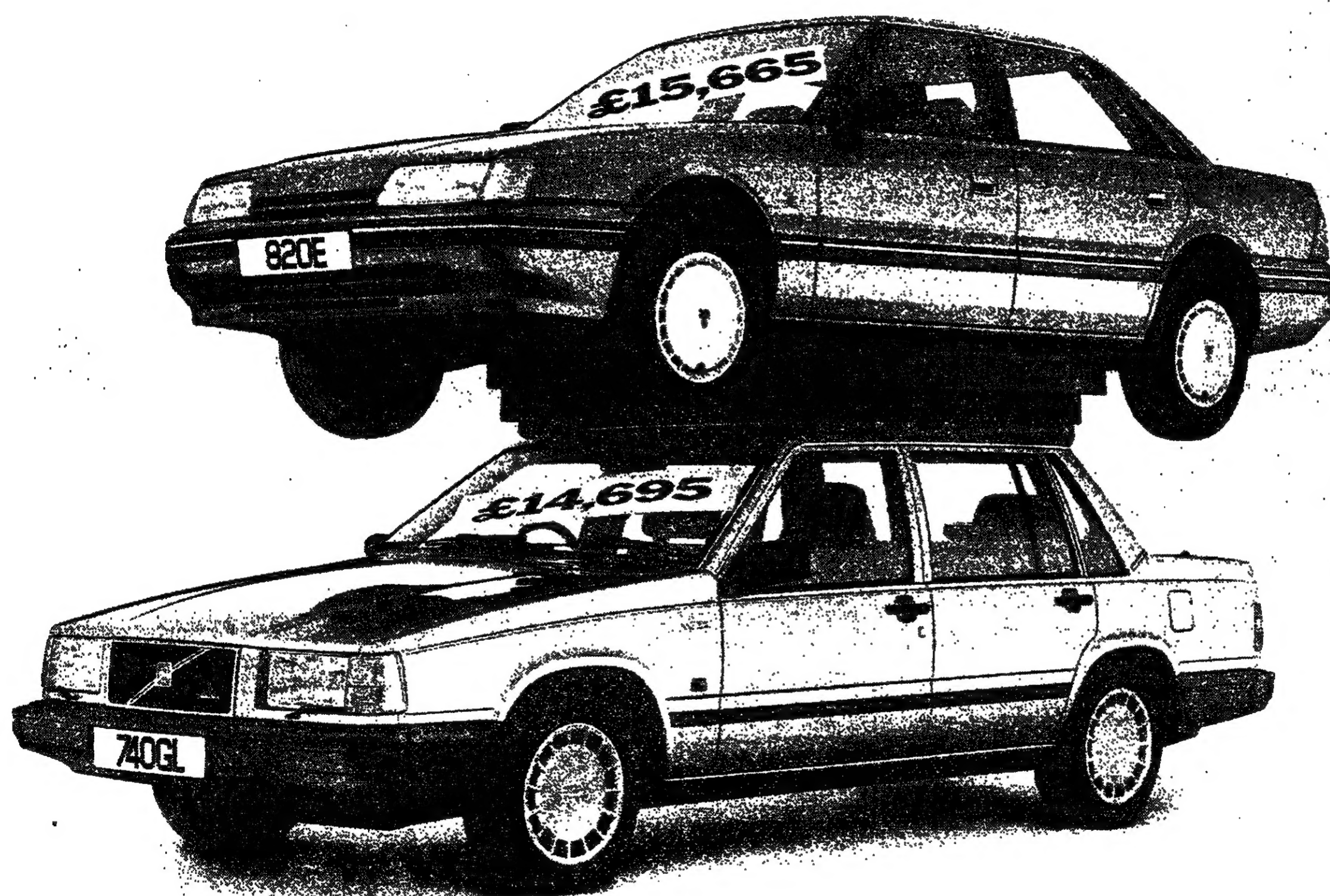
Shocked? You will be.
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Uncertainty
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Impressionist

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Armed forces review 'to be based on radical cuts'

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE radical proposals for reshaping Britain's armed forces, submitted six months ago by Alan Clark, the defence minister for procurement, are expected to form the "core" of the "options for change" plan for the three services, according to government sources yesterday.

Although Mr Clark's ideas are still opposed inside the Ministry of Defence by those advocating a more cautious approach, one source said that his confidential paper had "stood the test well".

Mr Clark has made clear to his ministerial colleagues that he believes the review should be moving faster, partly because of the political turmoil it will cause when the conclusions are made public. He wants the public debate on the government's decisions to be "out of the way" before the general election.

He is also convinced, the sources say, that there is an unnecessary "haemorrhaging" of money because of the development and production of equipment which will not be needed once the forces have been restructured.

One source close to Mr Clark said: "His argument is that there is a lot of equipment, ordered 10 years ago when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, which is now being delivered. Yet if his views on the way the 'options for change' review should go are accepted, he believes these types of equipment will not be necessary."

As minister responsible for procurement, Mr Clark is engaged in "striking off" certain weapon systems from the procurement programme, although he accepts that some may be reinstated once the defence review is completed. His views have not caused a breach in relations with the service chiefs but there has been strong resistance to cancelling particular equipment programmes.

In contrast to Mr Clark's approach, the more cautious line which appears to be favoured by Tom King, the defence secretary, is that orders for heavy equipment, such as the Multiple Launch Rocket System for the British

Army of the Rhine, should be cut back but not cancelled. Mr Clark accepts that there will have to be a compromise between the two approaches. He has, though, already spoken to industry about the inevitable cancellation of contracts. He says it is cheaper to pay defence companies compensation than to complete contracts for equipment ordered in a different international climate.

The minister has found industry prepared to talk constructively about penalty clauses and to adopt a flexible attitude towards future defence requirements. Those in the defence ministry advocating caution cite increasing instability in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, but this argument is apparently rejected by Mr Clark. He says the potential threat from unstable regimes in Eastern Europe is no justification for sticking to a defence strategy which was based on one scenario: a major incursion by predominantly Soviet forces, backed up by East German and Czechoslovak units along the length of the Soviet border, with diversionary attacks in north Norway, in the Baltic and in the Mediterranean.

His argument is that uncertainty in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union merely underlines the military and political weakness of those countries. One source said: "He says the instability may get worse but that doesn't make the countries more formidable."

The main thrust of Mr Clark's paper, produced at the end of last year, is that the armed services must be more flexible to deal with British interests out of the Nato area — something accepted by the defence ministry review team.

In spite of claims that he had called for a 32-warship navy — a figure that does not appear in his paper — Mr Clark is a keen supporter of the Royal Navy, although he is said to dismiss as "distorting" the emphasis on submarine-hunting. He also emphasises the need to keep a strong Royal Air Force.

Mr Clark's paper envisages that it may take up to 20 years for the full restructuring of the armed forces to be in place, which is another reason why he is urging a faster review. He also opposes staging the defence changes, because of the risk that they might be blocked later. He wants the restructuring programme to be "fluid".

Sources said he did not believe that the changes in Britain's armed services should be linked to the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) talks in Vienna. "He believes CFE is a symbolic ritual which has become a cover for everyone disarming as fast as they can," one official said.



Clark: defence review 'should move faster'

Uncertainty over painting may hit Van Gogh prices

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

THE Van Gogh painting with drawn by Sotheby's from last night's Impressionist sale could be one of many on the market whose attribution may come into doubt. The uncertainty could dampen the prices of works by the world's most expensive artist.

There are up to 30 works in circulation, either produced as straightforward fakes or as tributes to the artist in the decades after his death.

Yesterday calls for Van Gogh experts to reach a consensus on attribution were repeated by Walter Feilchenfeldt, the Zurich dealer and Van Gogh expert. "The experts don't really sit down and discuss these things... it is urgent that a catalogue raisonné is produced."

Sotheby's decision, made with the anonymous vendor, to withdraw the painting, *L'Escalier à Auvers*, pending "the outcome of further research", came after the auctioneers published a catalogue entry which questioned only the date of the work.

It stated that the picture was "painted in Auvers-sur-Oise in May or July 1890" adding that De La Faille, the author of the first Van Gogh catalogue raisonné in the 1930s, "dates this painting July 1890" while Ronald Pickvance, the British art historian, "prefers a date of late May".

Mr Pickvance notes that the two chestnut trees on either side of the house are in flower.

The vendor, who could see the value of the work plummet from the £3 million estimated in the catalogue to a few thousand pounds, has no recourse against the auction house, as he bought it in 1984, just outside the five-year guarantee period.

The painting first appeared on the market at a sale in Copenhagen in 1925. It was shown at a Van Gogh exhibition in Tokyo in 1985.

As to fears of other Van Gogh owners, Mr Feilchenfeldt said: "If they have got a very good provenance, being traced back to the artist's family, they shouldn't be worried."

Private views, page 19

Impressionist lots fail to sell

THE Impressionist honeymoon is over, and that is official following Christie's Impressionist and modern art sale in London on Monday night (Sarah Jane Checkland writes). A total of 34 lots among the consignment of 66 paintings and sculptures were unsold. Yesterday's Impressionist and modern watercolours and drawings sale followed the same pattern, with 39 per cent unsold in terms of value.

The sale on Monday did, however, include a number of outstanding prices, such as the £13.75 million paid for *Les Tulleries* by Picasso, a rare painting from 1901 showing children sailing toy yachts in the Tuileries gardens. This was sold at double its estimate to a European buyer bidding on the telephone.

An impressive record was set for the British artist Ben Nicholson when the Lefevre Gallery of London bid £1.2 million for his *La Boutique Fantastique*, a cool-coloured, near-abstract 1956 still life of jugs and bowls on a table. The previous record had been £400,000.

There were also records for German artist Max Liebermann at £484,000 and Frenchman Maurice Utrillo at £660,000. The rest,

including works by Picasso, Degas and Monet, must now return to their vendors.

"We must exercise considerable caution when we are looking at things for the future sales," James Roundell, the Impressionist expert at Christie's, said. "When we see distinct quality we can be optimistic. For some things we would have lower estimates in mind." He said the sale's disappointments "included Signac's *Herby-La Rive*. I don't know why that didn't sell when all the others did."

Representatives from the Japanese dealing company Aska International, energetic buyers at recent sales, bid frequently. They bought the second most expensive painting — *Les Baigneuses* by Renoir for £3.96 million (estimate £3.5 million to £4.5 million); another Renoir at £1.2 million, and two works by Caillebotte, at £770,000 and £264,000.

As a result of the sum paid for the top lot, which outstripped all other lots by £10 million, European buyers paid for 35 per cent of the volume, while the Japanese accounted for 28 per cent.



Rebecca Thomason, dressed as Alice, watches students Alison Bryant and Cathy Tomb dig on the site of Carroll's first home

By RONALD FAUN

THE house where Lewis Carroll was born in Daresbury, Cheshire, suddenly vanished more than a century ago. "Locals came and stripped it down to the foundations," Adrian Tindall, an archaeologist with Cheshire county council, said yesterday, as workers sifted through the meagre remains of Carroll's home, which lie beneath a meadow near the village.

The council and the Lewis Carroll Birthplace Trust now plan to feature the site as a

Plan to excavate the vanished birthplace of Lewis Carroll

tribute to the author. Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, alias Lewis Carroll, was born in Daresbury in 1832, the son of the local parson, a fact which attracts 7,000 visitors to the village every year. He lived there until the age of 11.

A trust official said: "He is one of the most quoted authors in the world, and during

his lifetime was translated into 67 languages, including Urdu. The Japanese are now fascinated by his writing and his background, which is not a bad record for a man who hardly ever went abroad."

A sandstone plaque was placed near the pasture where Daresbury parsonage once stood, inscribed with three

lines of Carroll's poetry: *An island farm mid seas of corn / Swayed by the wandering breath of morn / This happy spot where I was born.*

The trust hopes to raise £450,000 for the project, already supported by the county council and the Nat-

ional Nuclear Corporation, which has sponsored the dig and a radar search, pollen sampling, tree ring dating and geophysical survey of the site.

So far, the foundation outlines of the parsonage have been uncovered, along with a deep well and a scattering of artefacts, including a pointed slate pencil.

Rebecca Thomason, aged 11, bears the honorary title of the present Daresbury Alice. She said that she thought the Carroll's fantasy world was "really great".

BP plans to build £200m oil island off Poole harbour

By DAVID YOUNG

BP IS to put forward a private bill in parliament this year seeking permission to build a £200 million artificial island at the mouth of Poole Harbour in Dorset. This would be used as a base for exploiting the oil reservoir beneath the holiday area.

The standing conference of four county councils and 19 district councils in the area has accepted that, of the options put forward by BP, the proposal has the least detrimental effect on the environment. The project will still need planning consent.

The Nature Conservancy Council said the project would be "a blot on the landscape". Mr Jim White, its spokesman for the area, said: "The fear is the island will stay once it is there. Nobody can predict what it will be used for in 30 years' time once the oil production ceases." A spokesman for the local residents' association said: "People who bought expensive properties on cliff tops are hopping mad at the prospect of having their views blocked."

The project will help to maintain production at BP's

Nuclear energy boss defends escalating cost of Sizewell

By JOHN YOUNG

SIZEWELL B, Britain's first commercial pressurised water reactor (PWR) power station was on target for operation in the mid-1990s, and it cost was fully justified, John Collier, chairman of Nuclear Electric, said yesterday.

Mr Collier confirmed that in the past three years the estimated cost had risen from £1.7 billion to £2 billion at April 1987 prices, and by £160 million since last autumn. But that was purely the result of the government's cancellation of three other planned PWRs so that Sizewell became a one-off project.

He refused to comment on a confidential report by Brian George, chief executive of Nuclear Electric's PWR project group, that the eventual cost after allowing for inflation would be £2.6 billion, or on a Friends of the Earth estimate that the true cost, taking into account interest charges and changes in accounting procedures, would be £3.8 billion.

"I am rather sorry that an organisation like Friends of the Earth should have to stoop to using stolen documents," he said. Interest charges had never been included in the published estimates of capital costs. Provision had to be made for inflation, but that worked both ways, since electricity prices would also rise.

Sizewell was still expected to produce electricity for between 3.4p and 4.1p a kilowatt-hour, using the 5 per cent rate of return on capital originally projected. At the higher rate of 8 per cent introduced by the government last year, the range would be 4.8 to 5.7p/kWh, compared

with 3.5 to 4.5p/kWh for a new coal-fired station.

Construction was progressing well, and Mr Collier was confident that the station would be operating as planned within four years. Some operations were as much as a year ahead of schedule.

The latest projections made full provision for fuel, overheads and all decommissioning and waste management costs over the station's expected 40-year life. They confirmed that most countries expected nuclear plants to be cheaper than coal-fired plants at a 5 per cent rate of return, and still competitive at 8 per cent.

Mr Collier said the risk provisions were inevitably greater with a one-off project than with a planned programme. They included pos-

sible failure by contractors to meet deadlines, strikes, and the fact that the station had become a political target.

Asked if he feared the Labour party's threat to cancel Sizewell if it came to power, Mr Collier replied: "I don't think it would be a very economic cancellation. Given what we have to spend, there is no doubt at all in my mind that we should go on."

The project would have environmental benefits. The atmospheric pollution caused by burning some 100 million tonnes of coal would be avoided, as would be the associated discharge of carbon dioxide.

The Commons energy committee is to publish its report on Sizewell today.

Letters, page 13

Villagers fight power plant plan

A DISPUTE has erupted over an energy consortium's plans for a gas-fired power station on the southern edge of the North York Moors National Park.

A consortium led by Kelt UK Ltd and including BP will today submit a planning application to North Yorkshire county council for a £24 million plant at West Knapton, near Malton in the Vale of Pickering.

Kelt UK says the plant, which would supply electricity to the National Grid, would be "environmentally friendly" and fuelled by the "sour" gas it has discovered in huge quantities under the Vale of Pickering. The consortium's scientific advisers say gas emissions would be 70 times lower than from a coal-fired power station. But a protest group, RAGE (Ryedale Against Gas Exploitation) disputes the consortium's claims and intends to fight the proposal.

Two years ago the county council's planning committee unanimously rejected an application from the consortium to build a £12 million gas processing plant near Great

Habton, seven miles west of West Knapton. Last month, however, the government told North Yorkshire county council and Ryedale district council that, under the Electricity Act 1989, the Department of Energy — which has encouraged Kelt to explore for gas — will have the final say on whether the power station can be built.

Mr David Lloyd-Williams, the mayor of Malton, said yesterday: "It's quite clear that the government has decided to take this out of the hands of democratically elected councillors because it knows it has no other chance of getting this approved."

Consultants hired by the two councils say that emissions of gases would damage agriculture, the local racehorse industry and be a health hazard to people and animals.

● Britain's wind energy programme was given a boost yesterday with the announcement by the Department of Trade and Industry of a £1.3 million research and development grant (Nick Nuttall writes).

Parliament Square fountain scheme is unveiled

By ROBIN YOUNG

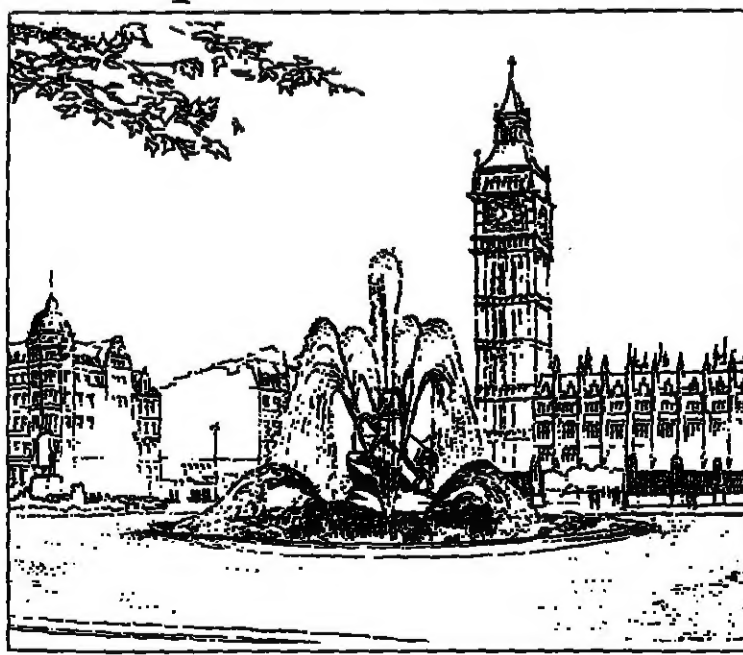
THE Fountain Society, whose president is the Prince of Wales, yesterday unveiled its design for a fountain in Parliament Square.

Intended to symbolise the Queen and to commemorate her reign, it would take the form of a bronze unicorn with a gilded horn and a coronet about its neck standing on a plinth of Balmoral rock amid the play of a water jet 45ft high and a ring of subsidiary jets, cascades and mist sprays.

The project, to be called the Queen's fountain, would cost £2 million to be raised by public subscription but the unicorn has several obstacles to overcome before it reaches its spray-soaked promontory.

Not least of these is the London Underground bill now before the Commons, which would enable London Underground to use Parliament Square as a construction site and rubbish dump for at least five years. The society has petitioned against the underground bill.

Thelma Seear, the society's chairman, said yesterday that she was confident its chosen design, which would make the unicorn stand about 5ft higher than the square's existing statue of Winston Churchill, would obtain planning consent and attract funding.



Artist's impression of the proposed Parliament Square fountain, and James Butler with a model of his sculpture

"London is badly under-fountained," Mrs Seear said. "Fountains give pleasure and delight, but many of our fountains are neglected and often not working. Even the major ones like those in Trafalgar Square and at Marble Arch are turned off for much of the year."

There were 70 entries in the society's competition for the

fountain design. The final scheme, approved by the Prince of Wales and the Queen, is the work of William Bertram, who was asked by the Prince to study all the entries in the design competition. The sculpture is by James Butler.

Mrs Seear said that the fountain would be "one of the wonders of the world". The

fountain's powerful flow would be regulated by wind sensors and programmed to suit changes in the weather.

Mrs Seear, who has just returned from a tour of fountains in Granada, Seville, Cordoba and Madrid, and having previously led her members through waterplays in Leningrad (144 fountains and three cascades at one site

alone) and Paris (200 fountains) was scathing about London.

Even the newest fountain, she said, were rather pathetic. One in Carlos Place, given by the Italian government, though working, has been a "nightmare" having developed mechanical trouble. The Duck Pond fountain in Bond Street "only dribbles".



Town hall Tories offer Patten a face-saving formula on poll tax



Eva: "Pounds per head is a better formula"

By DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CORRESPONDENT

A PLAN to enable ministers to save face over the poll tax by eliminating the wider variations in community charge levels without resorting to more charge capping will be presented to local government leaders tomorrow.

The proposals, to be debated by the Association of District Councils' annual conference in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, mark an attempt by town hall Conservatives to offer ministers a politically acceptable way of reducing the damage to the government's electoral prospects inflicted by the poll tax.

Peter Eva, former council leader in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, which set one of

the highest poll tax levels of any Conservative council, will urge delegates to support a scheme to revise the way in which central grants to local government are calculated. Community charge calculations rest on the Standard Spending Assessment which is issued to each local authority by the environment department.

Based on a complex formula, the assessment not only sets out what the government expects each council to spend but also represents the amount of central grant. By law the assessment figure must be printed on poll tax bills so that charge payers can compare the figure the government says their council needs to spend with what is being spent.

Chris Patten, the environment secretary, has accepted that the assessment system is far from

perfect and council leaders have called for it to be based on what they need to spend to deliver services rather than an arithmetical formula.

What Mr Eva proposes is that the assessment formula should be simplified so that the population of an area becomes the dominant factor in determining the amount of grant it receives. By basing grant on a simple "pounds per head" formula the principle of local accountability would be strengthened as electors were faced with real choices about council spending, he argues.

The grant per head of population is at present heavily modified by other factors, some of which, Mr Eva and his supporters argue, are irrelevant to the operation of district councils. He will draw on the experience of his council to

make his point. At £449 a head, the Windsor and Maidenhead community charge is equal to that of Labour-controlled Liverpool and Newham and £148 more than the government said it should be. The borough only escaped capping because its spending was less than £75 a head over government targets.

The poll tax in neighbouring Labour-controlled Slough is £359 a head, a difference which Mr Eva says is due entirely to the vagaries of the assessment formula. Although both councils perform exactly the same tasks, Slough qualifies for twice as much grant per head of population as Windsor and Maidenhead. Slough receives £156 and Windsor £79.

Most of that is accounted for by the element in the assessment formula known as the all ages

social index which purports to measure deprivation and ethnic diversity. Using 1981 census data, officials at the environment department draw up an index based on the number of one-parent families, shared houses, homes without inside toilets, overcrowded homes and New Commonwealth residents in an area.

The result of applying that index to the two neighbouring councils in east Berkshire was that Slough gained £3.1 million while Windsor and Maidenhead lost £1.5 million.

Geoffrey Blacker, chief executive of Windsor and Maidenhead, argues that the use of the index is irrelevant to the services his council provides. "Deprivation has little impact on emptying bins," he said. "Although housing and the payment of housing benefits are our responsibility we get most of

what we spend on grants back from the government and we are not allowed to support council housing from the revenue funds." In other words the areas where the council has responsibility for tackling deprivation are either self-financing or beyond the reach of the revenue support grant.

Ray Head, borough finance officer at Slough, said: "I have to admit that it would be hard to justify the impact of the index. But we would agree that ministers need to go back to the drawing board on SSAs."

Mr Eva is realistic about his chances of persuading 331 district councils to embrace a system in which almost all government grant was allocated on a per head basis. "We will not get everyone to agree but we must bring pressure to bear on the government."

Methodists say charge is 'a threat to civil liberties'

By RUTH GLEDHILL

METHODISTS yesterday called the community charge "grossly unfair and a threat to civil liberties". They said it had fulfilled the worst predictions made when the tax was introduced.

The Methodist Conference, the governing body of the church, voted overwhelmingly at its annual meeting in Cardiff, Wales, to urge the government to reconsider the tax as its effects become apparent. Forcing those with little or no income to pay the tax was unfair and threatening, the conference was told.

Ministers called for a simple rebate scheme to help people on low incomes, and for the level of the tax to be set locally. The Rev Peter

Sutcliffe, secretary of the London Committee of the Methodist Church and chairman of the Poll Tax Forum, which includes churches, voluntary organisations and trade unions, said: "It is an unfair tax and not based sufficiently on ability to pay. It has fulfilled our worst fears."

"Everything we thought might happen last year was a matter of conjecture. Now we are beginning to see the fulfilment of those fears. Financial pressure on the poorest families is becoming more intense."

The Poll Tax Forum is planning to meet representatives from the government and Labour Party to discuss alternatives, and will

continue to monitor the effects of the tax.

Anne Knighton, a former conference vice president, said the tax had disenfranchised many young people, and become a burden to those charged with enforcing it. "Many young people feel extremely threatened by this tax and find it difficult to pay."

She said they were put off by the complexity of applying for rebates and were failing to register for the charge. "They are also not registering for a vote in case they are caught up with the poll tax. They are becoming disenfranchised."

"That is one of the most appalling things about this tax. Our democracy is becoming threatened," Michael Swan-

borough, a district representative who works on the poll tax in the city treasurer's department in Birmingham, said: "I am at the sharp end of the legislation. I do not view myself as a faceless bureaucrat who is seeking to impose something on the public. We do not feel shameful about this, because all we are trying to do is implement legislation which has been imposed by a democratically elected government."

The Rev Walter Attwood, of Scotland, said one of his church members was a sheriff's officer who was yesterday issuing notices of poinding (valuation of a person's belongings prior to seizure). "He does not like the job. He says he's never had as rough a job as he has now."

"His civil liberties are at risk. He faces violence every day from those who are resisting."

Racism is rife within the Methodist Church, which has "hardly begun to take on board the implications of what it means to live side by side in the light of the gospel", the conference was told.

A Methodist report called *Faithful and Equal*, published three years ago, called for racial justice. It has, however, had little effect on the attitude of many in the church, the conference was told.

A report to the conference said some progress had been made but that "those whose job it is to work in this minefield of lip service and hypocrisy find overwhelming evidence that, since the church is an institution in society, she is not free from indictment."



The actor Stewart Granger (right) visited the Royal Star and Garter home in Richmond, West London, yesterday to meet Charlie Hankins, a fellow world war two veteran of the 6th battalion of the Black Watch. Mr Hankins sets off next month to raise £1 million for the home, and Erskine hospital, Glasgow, by propelling his 50-year-old invalid carriage from Land's End to John o' Groats. Mr Hankins, aged 70, lost both legs and the sight of an eye in north Africa in 1943.

MacGregor likely to alter tests after heads' criticism

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

CHANGES to the legally required tests of seven year olds to be introduced in England and Wales next year are likely following highly criticised pilot testing, John MacGregor, education secretary, said yesterday.

He was replying to criticism of the three pilot systems, tested in 640 schools earlier this year, from the National Association of Headteachers which said that some of its members would refuse to carry them out unless there

were radical changes. Mr MacGregor said that the purpose of the pilots was to find the best system and that he would not make any decisions until he had analysed all the findings.

It might be that the final system would be a combination of all three or just one but he was determined that testing for seven year olds in English maths and science would begin next April.

He said the final decision would be made by Christmas

so that teachers could begin training in January. The results of the first tests would not be published but schools would be expected to publish their results in the following year.

He said: "You can look on next year's tests as a national pilot. The opinion of the NAHT is just one opinion and I will be looking at all the results before coming to my decision. There will be tests and they will be workable."

David Hart, general secretary of the NAHT, has written to Mr MacGregor saying that the tests were too cumbersome and complaining that teachers, parents and governors were "appalled at the chaos" created by the recent pilot tests of the special assessment tasks required under the national curriculum.

Mr Hart said that the heads were working on alternative tests that would have "sufficient professional credibility and public acceptability not to damage or undermine the national curriculum but rather to complement and enhance it".

Mr Hart has said that many heads may refuse to co-operate in the tests unless radical changes are made.

Training clash denied

THE education department last night denied claims that government departments are engaged in a "who does what" squabble over training programmes (Tim Jones writes).

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities said yesterday that a national policy on job training was urgently needed for Britain to survive against growing competition. The government, it said, should encourage people "rather than threaten them with disincentives" to train after school.

"Britain has got to get its further education act to-

gether," the association said. "Government departments should stop squabbling among themselves about who does what. They should stop piling initiatives on top of each other without waiting to see what works and what does not."

The education department responded: "The AMA is right to say vocational education and training is a major priority but wrong to say government departments squabble. We are working together to develop a co-ordinated strategy to tackle the educational and training needs of young people and adults."

Smaller ITV stations fear for survival

By JOHN LEWIS

THE government is being asked to subsidise some of the smaller television companies such as Ulster and Border to stop them disappearing altogether when the new franchises are allocated in 1993.

David Mellor, the broadcasting minister, is understood to be concerned about the future of Ulster. Ministers believe that it is essential to retain a regional television voice in the province, where accurate news coverage is particularly important.

They would also face a small political earthquake if Border and Grampian were to go. Scottish MPs would be highly indignant at the prospect.

Yet, according to the warnings now being issued, this is precisely what could happen if the government does not make concessions to the smaller companies, such as those and Channel TV and Television South West.

Melvyn Bragg, deputy chairman of Border, is understood to have raised the

issue with Mr Mellor. The smaller companies are also talking urgently to the IBA, the Independent Television Association and the Campaign for Quality Television. They argue that the government is already giving a substantial subsidy to the Welsh Channel 4 (S4C) and to Gaelic broadcasting.

Mr Mellor is being asked to look again at the idea of negative bidding, so that companies would receive help, either from the larger, wealthier companies or by denying the Treasury the full franchise price. The concept of negative tendering was put forward earlier by George Russell, chairman of the IBA and now chairman elect of the new Independent Television Commission, but not pursued after some resistance, inside government.

Small companies claim that the new networking arrangement for sharing programme production means that they are to lose income as well as the prestige

of making their own programmes. At present the "magic circle" of LWT, Thames, Granada, Yorkshire and Central monopolise the programme-making. This is being changed. Instead it is proposed to create a "magic ten", leaving little or no scope for the smallest five companies.

Smaller companies will still get concessions in the rental they pay for transmission. Companies such as Thames and LWT pay disproportionately for transmission services, while companies like Grampian, which needs many transmitters, are let off lightly.

The embryo ITC has itself also to decide the shape of the new television map and decide what Channel 3 (ITV) licences are likely to be viable. One complication is that the new companies will lose revenue from Channel 4, which is to be more self-financing.

Elderly couple found in car wreck

A couple who went missing on their way home from holiday have been found dead in the wreckage of their car. A police search for Donald and Mauna Buxton, both aged 72, was launched on Sunday.

They left their daughter's house in Newton Hall, Durham, at 5am. She alerted the police when they failed to answer telephone calls to their home in Caulder Drive, Liverpool, eleven hours later. The couple decided to go home after hearing that a relative who lived near them had died.

Their Austin Allegro was spotted by a lorry driver at the bottom of a ravine beside the M6 at Garstang in Lancashire.

Father charged

A father faced a charge of manslaughter at Billerica Magistrates' Court after his son, aged 10, was involved in a motorcycle crash in which Gary McGann, aged 12 was killed on his BMX bicycle. The case was adjourned.

Officers injured

Two policemen were injured in a 95mph car chase across Hampshire when they were rammed by the car they were pursuing. Another police car was also rammed and the two officers and the driver of a Peugeot 309 were treated at a hospital in Winchester.

Office robbery

Two thieves in Wallington, Oxfordshire, walked into the offices of Simmons and Lawrence estate agents while the staff were in a rear office and stole £3,000.

Petrol threat

Two men who doused a garage attendant aged 67 in petrol and threatened to set him alight stole £500 from the garage in Tangmere, West Sussex.

Far from home

A rare black-headed gull ringed in Lithuania, has turned up at a waterfowl park at Pensthorpe, near Fakenham, Norfolk.

Worker crushed

Arthur Hall, aged 63, of Weston Longville, Norfolk, was killed after being trapped between a post and a beet harvester at a farm in Lenwade yesterday.

Girl gang hunt

Police are searching for three teenage girls who stole £300 from two girls aged 16 in Nottingham after threatening them with a knife.

Doorstep pints

Nurses at council-run residential homes in West Glamorgan are to serve beer to pensioners to save them walking to the pub.

Water delivery

The shortage of water on the Isles of Scilly is so acute that local officials are considering asking for 10,000 gallons to be shipped over from Penzance.

Mobile charity

The Salvation Army launched Britain's first mobile charity shop, the "Stop and Shop" bus, in Leicester yesterday to boost fund-raising.

Aftershocks hamper Iranian relief efforts

SPARE A THOUGHT FOR THE DEAD AND SOME CASH FOR THE LIVING.

Last Thursday an earthquake measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale devastated the northern provinces of Iran.

If that wasn't enough, another tremor occurred twelve hours later.

Thousands of people are either dead, injured or homeless.

They need shelter, medical aid and, of course, food.

Our sister society, The Iranian Red Crescent, will ensure supplies get through. But to help this happen we need your support now.

The death toll is unclear, but we're asking you to state clearly your intention to help the living.

So please make a donation to the British Red Cross Iranian Earthquake Appeal.

Please send your donation to: BRITISH RED CROSS IRANIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL, PO Box 121, London SW1X 7EW. I enclose £..... for the British Red Cross Iranian Earthquake Appeal. To donate by credit card fill in the details below* or telephone the 24hr donation line on 0898 234222. (Calls will be charged at 35p per minute peak, 25p per minute off-peak. 17p per minute will be rebated to the Appeal fund).

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To save costs please enclose SAE if receipt required.

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CONTINUING TO DESTROY THE OZONE LAYER IS SHORT-SIGHTED. THE EFFECTS WILL BE MORE SEVERE.



The ozone layer is growing thinner and thinner. Already there's a hole the size of the United States over Antarctica.

But still industry consciously pumps ozone destroying CFCs into the atmosphere.

The effects on our children and, in turn, their children will be catastrophic. Blindness and skin cancer. (For every 1% of ozone depletion 100,000

people will lose their sight.) And these are just the known effects.

In London, today, 76 nations will meet to update the 1987 "Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer."

They will consider when ozone destroying substances such as CFCs will be phased out.

But in some cases (due to pressure on Western

governments from the chemical industries) this could be as far away as 10 years. Long enough, in fact, to pump another 6 million tonnes of CFCs into the ozone.

Greenpeace believes that as there are sufficient CFCs available for recycling to cover all emergency uses, anything other than a total, immediate ban on ozone destroying substances is blindingly stupid.

GREENPEACE

30-31 Islington Green, London N1 2BR.

Prescott promises high speed rail link to tunnel

THE next Labour government will go ahead with a high speed rail link between London and the Channel tunnel, John Prescott, shadow transport secretary, told MPs yesterday.

Opening an Opposition debate on transport, he said that the party was planning now to see that the link was built.

Cecil Parkinson, transport secretary, said that 30 high speed passenger trains for the tunnel had been ordered and so had freight trains.

The trains were of a common pool, to be ordered by Britain, France and Belgium and jointly owned. They would travel through the tunnel from Paris to their British destinations.

Mr Prescott, moving an Opposition motion condemning the government's transport policy, said Britain's rail service was the most expensive, the least reliable, the least safe, the least comfortable and the most under-invested in Europe.

The fault lay with the impossible financial framework imposed on British Rail.

The secretary of state had accused him of exploiting personal grief resulting from national disasters. But he (Mr Prescott) was concerned to bring out the trend in deaths.

The government had been

TRANSPORT

luddite in its attitude towards the high speed link to the Channel tunnel. Mr Parkinson had denied them the opportunity of achieving a high speed link this century.

Mr Parkinson said that it would be a relief to all if Mr Prescott stopped appearing on television after every tragedy and blaming it on government cuts and accusing the government of putting money before people's lives.

"I regard that as a disgraceful allegation and when it was made about Lockerbie he knew it was under investigation by the police and it involved a terrorist bomb probably put on the plane at Frankfurt. But he has already made up his mind. He does not need an enquiry; it is all down to cutting by the government. It is a disgraceful slur and I invite him to withdraw it."

Mr Prescott intervened to say that enquiries over recent years all pointed to the inadequacy of the department and cuts that had contributed to deaths.

Mr Parkinson said that comment demonstrated that Mr Prescott tried to turn every tragedy into a party political matter and to cash in on it.

Railways are an important part of the infrastructure, but their contribution needed to be

kept in perspective. They carried 7 per cent of freight and 8 per cent of passengers.

The government recognised the contribution of the railways, but unlike the Opposition it was not obsessed by them. They could not solve all transport problems which was the impression the Opposition constantly gave.

Freight had never been part of the 72-mile high speed passenger link proposed by EuroRail from Folkestone. The freight arrangements that EuroRail had envisaged were those that the government had put in hand.

The equipment and carriages had been ordered and British Rail was searching for depots.

The notion that the regions would be at any freight or business disadvantage through his decision on the link was wrong. Freight would run with the most modern fleet at speeds comparable to those in Europe.

On the national roads programme, in three years starting this year, £5.7 billion would be invested and on rail and Underground £6.2 billion. On local roads, a further £2 billion would be spent by local authorities, so that the sum invested on the national road network was less than that on rail and Underground. "While the Opposition dream their dreams, we are getting on with the business of modernising Britain" (Labour laughter).



David Trippier, environment minister, who addressed the British Association of Women Entrepreneurs in London yesterday, speaking to Ashley Crystal, who is responsible for finding sponsors for the association

Labour prepares to fill key position

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR will make a key appointment today that will have an important bearing on the final phase of the party's reorganisation before the next general election.

The ruling national executive will select from a short list of six a director of communications

who, in the run-up to polling day, will work with Neil Kinnock and Jack Cunningham, shadow leader of the House. Dr Cunningham has been chosen to oversee the campaign.

The successful candidate will have the unenviable task of filling the shoes of Peter

Mandelson, who is widely credited with transforming the party's public image and prospects, not least by the emergence of "red rose" socialism. Mr Mandelson, the grandson of Herbert Morrison, one of the giants of Labour history, is resigning in October to con-

centrate on his candidacy for the safe Labour seat of Hartlepool. For a salary estimated at £28,000 a year the person appointed will help to present the party and its policies in the best possible light as well as ensuring that in the general election campaign, increasingly fought on television and in the radio studio, Labour produces plenty of slick "sound bites".

Among those attending the party's headquarters for interview today is Colin Byrne, a chief press and broadcasting officer with Labour, who has been Mr Mandelson's assistant. He has worked for the party since 1987, having served previously as a press officer with the National Union of Students and the former Inner London Education Authority.

The other candidates are: Alison Dunn, director of publicity at the Royal College of Nursing; David Hill, a former political adviser at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection (1978-1979) and now assistant to Roy Hattersley, the party's chief spokesman on home affairs; Jim Parish, a chief press and broadcasting officer with the Labour party; John Underwood, a television producer with a small independent production company; and Phil Woolas, a television producer with Channel 4 and former president of the National Union of Students.

Recruiting hints

GOVERNMENT departments need to portray a more attractive image as employers to candidates for clerical jobs as it becomes more difficult to recruit civil servants, the National Audit Office says today (Sheila Gunn writes).

With 190,000 clerical staff forming the backbone in many ministries, recruiting officers should also do more to put forward during job interviews the advantages of joining the civil service.

The office reports an annual turnover of more than 30 per cent in some London offices. Recruiting can cost £8,700 for each recruit.

Clerical Recruitment in the Civil Service (Stationery Office; £6.10).

Social service call for budget 'fence'

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

MOST directors of social services support the idea of a set annual budget for running services for the elderly, infirm and disabled, according to a Labour party survey published on the eve of a Commons revolt on community care.

The fresh evidence of support for a "ring fence" around community care budgets indicates a close vote by MPs to-night in what is predicted to be one of the largest rebellions this session.

A total of 83 directors back the House of Commons Social Services Committee and the Griffiths report on community care in calling for local authorities to receive reserved budgets when they take over community care responsibilities from the national health service next year.

Kenneth Clarke, health secretary, will oppose the move today when MPs debate Lords amendments to the National Health Service and Community Care bill. The government is imposing a three-line whip to try to prevent wavering backbenchers joining Opposition MPs by voting for a ring fence around the community care budgets. A ring fence would stop councils switching funds from community care to other services or using them to cushion the impact of the community charge.

Robin Cook, shadow health secretary, said 88 of the 116 directors of social services in England and Wales had replied to his survey, with 83 wanting a set community care budget, two against and three not giving a view.

Mr Cook said: "I have never before held a survey with such a clear-cut response. The message is so loud, so emphatic that even Kenneth Clarke will have a job not hearing it."

Margaret Thatcher told MPs last week that "many" local authorities wanted community care funds to come through the

Cabinet seat wanted for Luce

The arts minister, Richard Luce, should be given a seat in the cabinet and greater responsibilities, Michael Colvin (Romsey and Waterhouse, C) said during question time. He asked why, in view of its greatly increased spending on the arts, the government should still be regarded as philistine (Labour laughter).

Would it help, he asked, if the arts minister was given a cabinet seat with full responsibility for arts issues, including heritage, education, television and broadcasting, so as to give Mr Luce a status equal to that of his continental counterparts?

Sir Geoffrey Howe, deputy prime minister, standing in for Margaret Thatcher, said that it would be a pleasure to be joined by Mr Luce in the cabinet, but that was a matter for the prime minister.

Bill to abolish councils

A bill to abolish non-metropolitan county councils was introduced in the Commons under the 10-minute rule. Philip Oppenheim (Amber Valley, C), introducing his County Councils (Abolition) bill, said that unitary local authorities were more likely to improve services and to be accountable. The present system left people unsure who was responsible for which service.

The bill was given a formal first reading, but has no chance of becoming law.

Poll tax study under way

The government is working on a review of the operation but not the structure of the poll tax, Sir Geoffrey Howe, deputy prime minister, said when he stood in for Margaret Thatcher in Commons question time. Sydney Bidwell (Ealing, Southall, Lab) had asked whether there was any truth in the story that the government was working on a scheme to modify the tax before the next general election.

Pollution cash

An anti-pollution package for Scotland, worth up to £130 million, was announced in a written reply by Malcolm Rifkind, Scottish secretary. The money will be made available over the next three years to sewage authorities carrying out projects to reduce pollution and meet EC standards.

More visitors

About 3,510,000 people visited Britain in the first four months of the year, Patrick Nicholson, employment under secretary, said in a written reply. The figure is 4 per cent higher than the corresponding period last year.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Environment, National Health Service and Community Care bill, Lords amendments. Lords (2.30): Environmental Protection bill, committee, fourth day.

Nissan proudly present an amazing little number for August...



£4,995*

If you're feeling gloomy about the current economic climate, here's some news that should brighten you up.

We're celebrating the sale of our quarter-of-a-millionth Micra by offering the 3-door Micra S at a special low price of just £4,995*.

The offer applies to cars ordered from July 1st and registered by August 31st.

So, to make you even happier, your new special-priced Micra S can sport the latest 'H' registration.

In case you don't realise how special the Micra S price is, suffice it to say that it's over £900 LESS than competitors from Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot.

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The Micra S is an expert in the field of economic restraint. Its clean-burn alloy engine with maintenance-free electronic ignition is one of the most powerful in its class, yet gives remarkable lead-free economy of up to 56.5 mpg*.

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This is no idle boast. The latest confirmation comes from Britain's biggest independent providers of roadside assistance - the National Breakdown Recovery Club.

From records based on nearly two million members they produced a table of the top twenty most reliable cars in Britain. We're delighted to say that

Nissans swept the board, taking 1st, 2nd and equal 3rd places.

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Visit your nearest dealer today and take a closer look at the Micra S.

At £4,995* it's an amazing little number in a big number of ways.

But then when it comes to giving you unbeatable value... Nissan know how.

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*PRICE EXCLUDES DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES
†GOVERNMENT FUEL CONSUMPTION TEST: MPG 100/100 MICRA 1.05 COAST 56/56 (90km/h) 56.5 (50 URBAN CYCLE 44.1 (80.4)

Fang re...
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Sikhs seize
police in
guns raid

Ela suspects
die in clash

Spain hospital
ban on liver

Fang release shows Peking double-think on dissent

From Catherine Sampson in Peking

PEKING'S decision to allow their most wanted "criminal" Fang Lizhi and his wife, Li Shuxian, to leave the US embassy for Britain is the latest in a series of confused signals emanating from the regime on dissent.

The departure of Mr Fang and his wife, as well as the release of 881 detainees in the past few months, have been genuine concessions on the part of the Chinese authorities. Peking has diplomatically but effectively put a stop to the Goddess of Democracy radio ship and to a call for the release of all political prisoners. But headline socialist rhetoric has eased little, US policy is still harshly criticised and secret dissident trials are expected to take place soon.

Chinese officials say that the number of people still held in detention after June 4 last year numbers 355. Western diplomats suggest that there are many more.

Now that Mr Fang's final statement to the government has been released, it is clear that he did not compromise in any way. Mr Fang stated that he opposed the monopoly on power of the Communist party and simply "noted" that this was contrary to the Chinese constitution. He admitted to no crime and no regret. While he said he would not engage in activities against China, he said nothing about activities against the present regime.

As this statement is in itself a slap in the face to China's leaders, it is not clear why they have turned the other cheek and allowed Mr Fang to leave. The veteran leader, Deng Xiaoping, himself is believed consistently to have opposed any flexibility on Mr Fang. At the end of last year, China's leadership was talking in

terms of "showing not one iota of mercy" to those involved in the student-led demonstrations.

The lure of foreign trade and finance wrapped up in the most favoured nation status and the forthcoming debate on sanctions is powerful. Economic considerations alone cannot, however, completely explain the regime's change of heart. China's octogenarian leadership showed on June 4 last year that their primary consideration was to maintain the dictatorship of the Communist party and any dissent threatened that.

One possible explanation for what has been happening is that the old man and his losing influence and that the more pragmatic policies on the release of dissidents are a result of pressure from forward-looking factions in the party. The regime is walking a tightrope. The confrontational and large-scale protest at Peking University on June 3 this year was significant.

While it showed that dissent would not go away, it has not stopped the regime from continuing to release political prisoners. While all those recently released are silent now, releasing them can only be playing for time.

Recent attempts at speaking out have been suppressed without resort to violence. Two dissidents, Zhou Duo and Gao Xi, who had been speaking out against the headline leadership, were taken into police custody at the end of May on the day they had intended to call for the release of political prisoners.

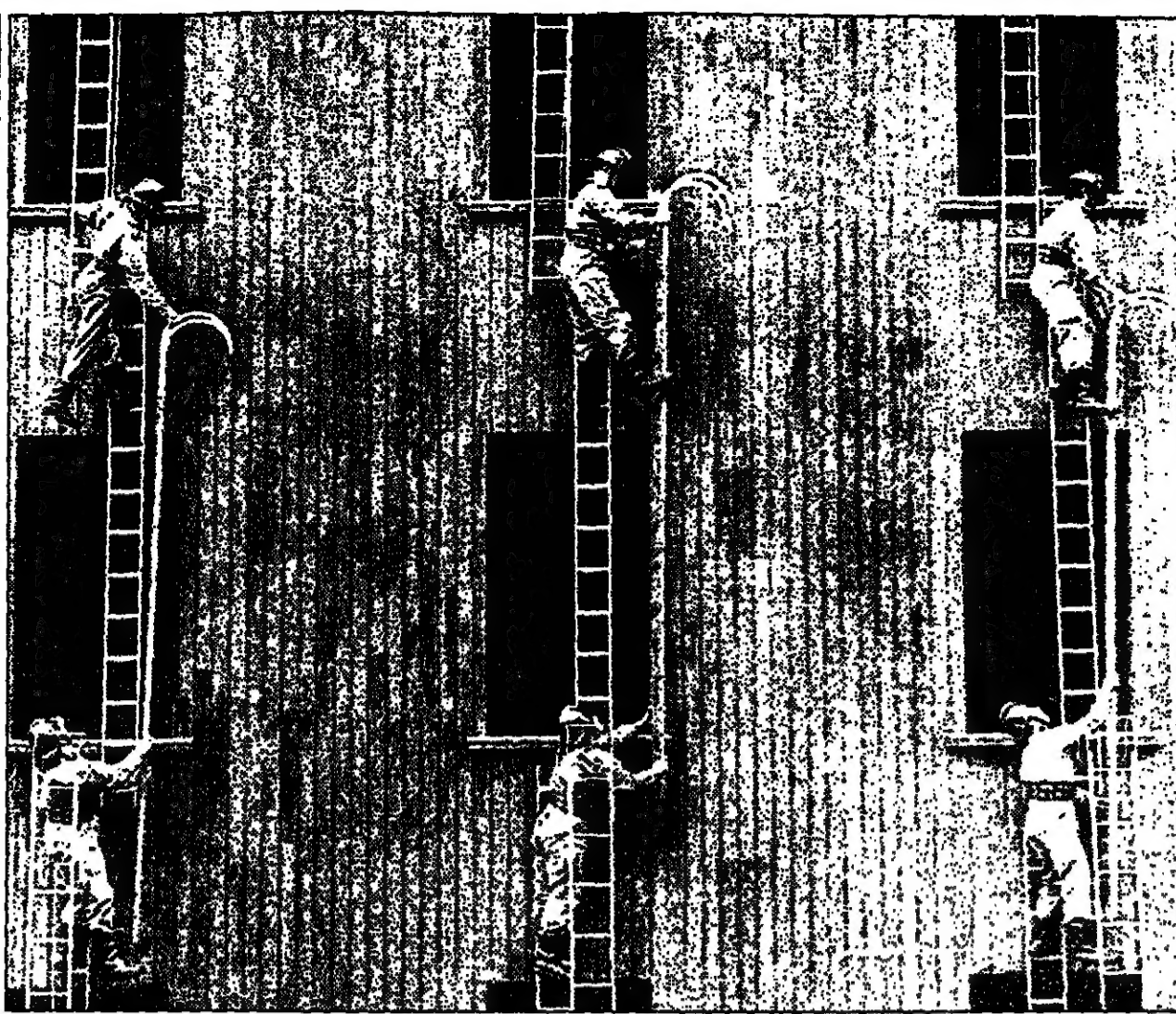
Their friend and protector, the Taiwan-born pop singer Hou Dejian, was then given no choice by the authorities but to return to Taiwan. After his departure, Mr Zhou and Mr Gao were released, but without Mr Hou's support they are expected to melt into the background of alienated intellectuals who yearn for change but dare not demand it. "None of those released from prison is truly free," said a diplomat. "They are all living under the shadow of possible re-arrest."

Balanced against the more lenient face China is now showing to the West are questions such as why the security forces repeatedly beat up foreign journalists, or why, if the regime is confident that it is controlling dissent, it had to bring troops on to the streets of Peking on the anniversary of the massacre.

Preparations have been made for dissident trials on charges of counter-revolution, for which there are no light sentences. Among those to be tried soon is Ren Wandong, a wiry accountant in his forties who gave speeches on democracy during the student movement last year and who had already spent several years in prison after the Democracy Wall period in 1980. He is expected to be sentenced to at least another ten years.

Among others to be sentenced are two of former party leader Zhao Ziyang's aides. Unofficial reports say that the trials will not be publicised. It is believed the authorities have still not made up their minds what to do with Wang Dan, the student leader who is perhaps the most widely known figure still in prison after last June and whose trial could spark campus unrest.

● LONDON: Britain said yesterday it had not imposed any condition of political silence on Mr Fang. Professor Martin Rees, director of the Institute of Astronomy at Cambridge, said he had accepted a post there as a senior visiting fellow studying the early universe.



Step brothers: Swiss firefighters demonstrating their skills in an exercise at a firemen's convention held in Lugano

Israel denies Soviet Jews are displacing Palestinian Arabs

From Richard Owen in Jerusalem

ISRAELI officials yesterday rejected European Community criticism of Israel's "lamentable" human rights record in suppressing the intifada, or Palestinian uprising, and strongly denied that Israel was settling Soviet Jews in the occupied territories at the expense of the local Palestinian population.

But diplomats insisted Israeli policy was "ambiguous" and said large numbers of Soviet Jews were settling in Arab east Jerusalem, which is annexed, and which Israel regards as part of its "eternal and undivided capital". Israeli officials acknowledged that Israel would continue to settle the West Bank with "Israeli Jews rather than Soviet immigrants".

Yitzhak Modai, the finance minister, yesterday confirmed a recent statement by Ariel Sharon, the normally hardline housing minister, that Israel would not "send Soviet Jews across the green line" into the occupied territories or build housing for them there.

Mr Modai, addressing the Jewish Agency, made it clear this was a response to Soviet pressure. Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, clouded the issue by insisting there was "no new policy" on Soviet immigrants. He told the Knesset that policy remained the same despite Mr Sharon's statement. The West Bank and Gaza are not part of Israel proper but have been under Israeli military administration since 1967.

In a move likely to anger Israeli leaders, Gennadi Gerasimov, the foreign ministry spokesman, said that Moscow sought additional assurances from Israel that it would not settle Soviet Jews in Arab east Jerusalem, captured by Israel in 1967.

The statement appeared to dampen hopes of an agreement between the two countries over the exodus of tens of thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel. Up to half a million are expected to migrate to Israel, and Palestinian and Arab leaders have accused Israel of planning to use the new arrivals to populate the West Bank and Gaza Strip, inhabited mainly by Palestinians.

President Gorbachev warned that he might slow down or stop immigration if the Soviet Jews were used to settle the occupied territories. But Israeli leaders this week offered guarantees that the immigrants would be located only in Israel proper. The assurances were given on Sunday by Ariel Sharon, the hardline housing minister, and confirmed by Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, who disclosed that he had sent

a letter to Mr Gorbachev on April 29 intended to allay Moscow's fears. However, Mr Gerasimov said yesterday that the Soviet government had received no such letter, and added that he would have to study Mr Sharon's announcement before giving a response. "If the Israeli government will give certain guarantees that Jews will not be settled in the occupied territories, this will change the entire picture," he said. In the meantime Moscow would proceed on the assumption that Israel was contravening the Geneva Convention by settling people on occupied territory.

Israeli officials said that of the tens of thousands of Soviet Jews who had arrived in the past year, only 215 had settled in the West Bank or Gaza. But Palestinians fear that as Soviet Jews settle in Israeli towns in large numbers they will displace Israelis who will move to West Bank settlements.

Far-right parties have openly said they hope this will happen and yesterday Mr Modai confirmed that "our policy is to settle Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip with Israeli Jews". Mr Modai said Israel expected at least half a million Soviet Jews over the next three years.

Observers said this amounted to a rejection of the present Baker plan. Israeli officials said that of the tens of thousands of Soviet Jews who had arrived in the past year, only 215 had settled in the West Bank or Gaza. But Palestinians fear that as Soviet Jews settle in Israeli towns in large numbers they will displace Israelis who will move to West Bank settlements.

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Rioting forces Kaunda to cut short holiday

From Jan Raath in Harare

PRESIDENT Kaunda of Zambia cut short his holiday and returned home yesterday after unprecedented violence rocked the capital, Lusaka. Police were out in force after people rampaged through the streets for two days.

At least four people have been killed and the main street of Lusaka was littered with stones, glass and gutted vehicles.

The rioting, characterised mainly by looting, continued for the second day yesterday as helicopters hovered over townships and the University of Zambia, the flashpoint of the protests. By late afternoon yesterday, the repeated bursts of automatic gunfire appeared to be diminishing.

"Usually when there is rioting, KK (the president's nickname) goes on holiday, just to show he has the place under his thumb," said a Lusaka businessman. "But he came back in a hurry this time. It's serious."

The scale of the violence shocked Lusaka residents. What began as a peaceful march by students of the University of Zambia against a doubling of the price of maize meal spread spontaneously to the overcrowded townships where the city's workers and poor live. The unrest then spilled into the city centre. Much of Cairo Road, the main business boulevard, was littered with fire-bombs, smashed glass, and overturned and burnt-out cars.

The University Teaching Hospital said three civilians, including a girl aged three, died of gunshot wounds when police opened fire with automatic weapons on the rioters. Another 41 people were treated for gunshot wounds, cuts from flying glass, and fractures inflicted by police batons or rifle butts.

"If the rioters want to kill themselves, let them go ahead and do it," said Alex Shapi, the minister of state for defence and security. But security forces also suffered casualties. Police admitted that one constable had been stoned to death, while diplomatic sources reported another police station was reportedly attacked.

At the university yesterday students were chanting "Kaunda must go" and "Cast Kaunda" as they burnt the red, green and black national flag. "I cannot remember ever hearing about violence this serious in Lusaka," said a Western diplomat, a long-time resident. "Lusaka is usually the docile place while the Copperbelt (in the northwest) flares up. It really is an indication of very deep resentment."

In December 1986 a similar rise in the price of maize meal, the national staple, ignited rioting in the Copperbelt mining area and police shot dead 15 people. Residents in the towns of Kitwe and Ndola reported "a tense calm" yesterday as heavily armed riot police patrolled the streets.

The latest price increase has taken the cost of a 55 lb bag of meal to 269 kwacha (£3.80), and a regular supply for an average Lusaka family of six people for a month consumes nearly half the monthly salary of a middle-income office worker. "Something like this had to happen," said another diplomat. "God knows how much Zambians can take."

Observers are also anxiously watching to see if the political dimensions of the riots, so far expressed mostly by a relatively smaller number of students, will snowball into wider anger against President Kaunda and his ruling United National Independence party.

With his party committed to a referendum — as yet no date has been specified — on whether Zambia should return to a pluralist democracy, President Kaunda's authority has been severely impaired.

Before the cock crows to welcome the sunrise, residents of Shwepyithra squeeze themselves into crammed buses for a 90-minute or longer journey to their jobs in Rangoon. Many complain bitterly about their daily commuting. In common with some half a million other Burmese city-dwellers, the ruling military junta gave them no choice. It ordered them to tear down their urban homes and move to plots in remote townships.

The junta, officially represented by the State Law and Order Restoration Council, was defeated in Burma's general election on May 27, the first in 30 years. But the junta has not yet indicated when and how it will hand over power. Meanwhile, its resettlement programme is going ahead — "but with less energy than before the election", one Shwepyithra resident said. The council says its aim is to clear squatters out of crowded urban areas and give them more space, while beautifying Rangoon. The official *Working People's Daily* newspaper has called the new location "well laid out towns complete with all essential amenities".

Shwepyithra may have potential, but most of the amenities are not there yet. Its dirt roads have turned into mud puddles in the monsoon rain. Secondary-school classes started this month, in a school not yet completed. A health clinic is planned but not yet built, and residents say the town

does not even have electricity, although its first settlers arrived three years ago. Human rights groups, including Amnesty International and Asia Watch have criticised the resettlement programme. Their recent reports have cited evidence of force being used to move people. They also charged that some of the areas the council has targeted were pro-democracy strongholds during the mass demonstrations in 1988. Those demonstrations toppled the 26-year socialist dictatorship of Ne Win.

Lack of a clear way forward allowed the council to stage a military coup and begin a bloody crackdown on pro-democracy activists. Human rights reports say many more people were killed in that crackdown than in the Tiananmen Square massacre and its aftermath in China. Thousands more are now doing hard labour in prison.

One area targeted for resettlement was Rangoon's Gyo Gon district. A dispute in a tea shop there ignited the first flames of Burma's 1988 protests. The tea shop and the surrounding area have since been razed. One man from another area known for supporting the pro-democracy movement said he and his neighbours were given only 24 hours' notice to move last March 25. "Most of the inhabitants were forced to leave home at the point of rifle," he said in a letter handed to a Western embassy in Rangoon. "The buildings were destroyed by means of bulldozers and cranes."

Once uprooted, Rangoon residents have been sent to satellite towns as Shwepyithra, Hlaing Taya and Dagon. The nearest of these is 15 miles from the city centre. Although government buses run frequently to the outskirts of the new towns, only private pick-up lorries, with long wooden benches for passengers, brave the muddy roads inside the townships.

Other big cities in Burma have had similar resettlement programmes. An estimated 10,000 people have been moved from Mandalay, say residents there.

In Shwepyithra, residents complain about the steep cost of moving to a 40 ft by 60 ft plot. "We had to pay 5,000 kyat (about £500) to the official agent to move here," said a 27-year-old veterinarian. "I had to borrow it from my aunt, and don't know when I can pay it back. Now I am losing money in my business because it takes me so long to get to

Sikhs seize police in guns raid

Amritsar — Sikh militants, masquerading as security forces, looted an armoury in a railway station and kidnapped five policemen, officials said yesterday. The raiders made off with 37 guns, including three machine guns.

The attack occurred in Firozpur, 46 miles southwest of Amritsar, a frequent scene of fighting in the militants' eight-year battle for a separate homeland in Punjab state. The militants, armed with rifles, entered the station dressed as policemen, an official said. They cut electricity and telephone lines and forced their way into the armoury.

About 1,200 people have been killed so far this year by Sikh extremists in Punjab, a rich agricultural region in India's northwest. (AP)

Eta suspects die in clash

Madrid — A gun battle between a civil guard patrol and a suspected Basque extremist squad in a remote valley in the Pyrenees left three people dead and two seriously wounded (Harry Debelius writes).

One civil guard policeman was killed in the clash. Two out of the three Eta suspects involved were found dead. All three suspects appeared to have been shot in the mouth. The surviving Eta suspect was said to be in a bullet entered his mouth and exited through the side of his face. One of the two dead suspects was a young woman, according to police.

In Pamplona, the interior minister, José Luis Corcuera, said the three suspects might have committed suicide, but Eta accused the civil guard of cold-blooded killings.

Spain hospital ban on liver

Madrid — The health and consumer affairs ministry has ordered state-run hospitals to stop serving cow's or calf's liver, after the illegal use of growth hormones to fatten livestock had made at least 126 people ill, it was learnt yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

The ministry warned that harmful products had been used to fatten livestock in at least seven of Spain's 17 regions. Symptoms of the illness, caused by eating affected offal, include nervousness, severe and persistent headache and, in some cases, vomiting and fever. In some cases of pregnancy it may provoke premature contractions, but according to the ministry "in no case is hospitalization necessary".



Jinxed: Menem claims "Argentina has never been as lucky", but his countrymen think otherwise

ASK an Argentinian to name his president and his eyes will darken at the prospect of ill fortune. Those who have recently come into contact with President Menem have suffered so much bad luck, some of it tragic, that they hardly dare mention his name. The national team got through to the quarter-finals. Nobody will deny Brazil played the better game, but Argentina scored the decisive goal.

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A very different story followed the first World Cup match when the South American team suffered a humiliating defeat against the Cameroon team. The defeat was blamed on the presence in Naples of Argentina's most unlucky man: the president

himself. A list of other victims of the "mufa effect" is both long and tragic: □ During Señor Menem's presidential campaign two Peronist party lorries fell over a precipice and a campaign aircraft crashed, killing the pilot and co-pilot. The president's personal doctor died during the campaign.

□ The day after taking office, Señor Menem's son, Carlos, had a car accident and had to be operated on in the US.

□ Señor Menem's wife, Zulma, flew to the US with her son, felt ill and had to be operated on. At the same time two brothers of the president also went into hospital.

□ After five days in the government, Miguel Roig, the economy minister, died.

□ After two months in the government, Julio Corzo, the minister of health and social welfare, died in a plane crash.

□ Two months later the gov-

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□ Sergio Batista, a member of the Argentine national team, gave his shirt to the president for the match. Batista has since lost a \$1 million contract to play for an Italian team, lost his place in the national team and is reserve for his home team.

□ The president played tennis with Gabriela Sabatini. She later twisted an ankle and was out of action for three months.

□ The president flew in an Argentine Pucara jet. A few days later Brazil rescinded a contract to buy 30 of them.

□ The president visited tango singer Hugo de Carril in hospital. Two hours later de Carril died.

□ He visited the wife of the secretary of social security in hospital. She died next day.

□ The president inaugurated a new pavilion at a prison. Less than two weeks later, 33 inmates died in a fire.

□ As the president was about to board an aircraft to Kuala Lumpur, a lorry crashed into the aircraft.

President Menem refuses to take seriously mufa talk, saying: "Argentina has never been as lucky since I was in the government." The president would have to admit that even his marital life has been far from harmonious for several months now.

Señor Menem is reported to be seeking a divorce. Whether he believes his luck will then turn is not known, but the real question now is whether, if Argentina reaches the final in the World Cup, the president will risk it and book a seat on a plane to Italy?

Calamity dogs Argentina's ill-fated president

From Louise Byrne in Buenos Aires

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Moscow rules out aid but would accept 'no strings' credits

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

AS THE European Community decided to examine further the feasibility of an aid package for the Soviet Union, Moscow indicated that it would welcome more Western credit so long as no political strings were attached. A spokesman for the foreign ministry insisted, however, that the Soviet Union did not need financial help.

Addressing a press conference yesterday, the foreign ministry press spokesman, Gennadi Gerasimov, said that according to State Bank figures the Soviet Union was running a current account deficit in foreign currency of

\$2 billion (£1.15 billion). This had given rise to difficulties in trade and called into question the country's hitherto irreproachable reputation on the international market.

There have been reports in recent weeks of Western suppliers halting shipments to the Soviet Union of food, paper and other goods because payment for earlier deliveries had not been made.

Mr Gerasimov attributed current payment difficulties to changes in Soviet foreign trade practices resulting from perestroika. He went on: "Foreign credits from the West can help improve the situation in the

interim." He cited the loan of DM5 billion (£1.7 billion) agreed by the West German government last week and emphasised that it had been granted without political conditions, indicating "faith in our economic potential".

West German officials had said the loan could mark the beginning of far greater Western assistance to the Soviet economy. On a possible EC programme of financial assistance, Mr Gerasimov said that it was too early to say how the Soviet Union might use additional Western credit, though he suggested it could be used to ease the country's burden by paying off outstanding debts.

He indirectly criticised the pre-Gorbachev regime for using the windfall from high oil prices to buy grain and foreign consumer goods rather than to upgrade industry so that it could improve the quantity and quality of its output.

Mr Gerasimov's response continues Moscow's policy, articulated several times by President Gorbachev and other officials, that the Soviet Union will not accept aid, but does want "co-operation" on an equal basis and without political conditions.

Mr Gerasimov's comments also suggest that the Soviet Union would accept and use more Western credit if it were forthcoming. Last year Moscow seemed wary of taking additional loans and a number of economists, citing the experience of Eastern Europe, warned that it might not be able to afford future interest payments.

While the Soviet Union may now be more favourably disposed towards credits, it still rules out aid. This reluctance to accept Western help seems to be primarily a matter of national pride. Moscow does not want to be regarded as a supplicant or beneficiary of charity, but as a superpower and international trading partner, like any other. As its foreign trading difficulties show, however, the state of the Soviet economy militates against this.

Mr Gerasimov's remarks yesterday may indicate that, while direct assistance would be unwelcome, Moscow would consider a proposal framed as low-interest credits to tide it over current payment difficulties.

Robert Service, page 12

Cheney points to military danger

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

RICHARD Cheney, the US defence secretary, has indicated his firm opposition to Western economic aid to Moscow, arguing that such assistance would subsidise the Soviet military.

His views will act as a further brake on the Bush administration which, in the face of strong pressure from France and West Germany, has indicated that it is reluctantly prepared to discuss an aid package at next month's world economic summit in Houston, although it has serious reservations.

In Dublin on Monday the EC summit agreed in principle to give economic assistance to the Soviet Union, despite the opposition of Britain. West Germany last week announced that it would extend \$3 billion (£1.7 billion) in bank credits to bolster President Gorbachev's reforms.

Mr Cheney, an acknowledged conservative and a defence "hawk", said the only way he could approve such aid would be if the Soviet Union made far deeper cuts in its military spending and ended its own substantial assistance to Cuba, Afghanistan and Angola. "The Soviets have a long way to go before I would accept the notion of economic assistance to the Soviet Union," he said.

Moscow was still spending "enormous amounts of its national wealth on military

hardware... If you get the West in the business of providing economic assistance while they are still engaged in this massive military expenditure, to some extent you are subsidising that. I do not think that is very good policy."

Mr Cheney also reiterated the administration's argument that it is the dismal state of the Soviet economy which has fuelled many of the reform efforts there, so financial aid could actually "impede the progress of reform".

Washington, like Britain, has indicated that it would only countenance aid for very specific projects, and has argued that to give general aid to the Soviet Union in advance of genuine economic reforms would be to pour money down the drain. Advocates of an aid package have yet to spell out their views of its size or content.

Late last week President Bush explicitly ruled out direct US financial assistance to the Soviet Union in the absence of big economic and political reforms there, but said he would not try to block a European initiative to try to rescue the disintegrating Soviet economy.

"Direct economic aid standing on its own two feet? I can't do that," he said. But he noted that European countries did not have to have US approval before giving Moscow aid.



Chain reaction: Thatcher and Kohl, in Ireland yesterday, admiring the chain of office worn by Dublin's mayor

Thatcher edges into line at summit

From ROBIN OAKLEY IN DUBLIN

WHEN Charles Haughey, in one of his final acts yesterday in the Irish European Community presidency, proposed the extension of Jacques Delors' term as president of the European Commission for two years it was Margaret Thatcher who seconded the proposal before it was carried by acclamation.

Nothing could have been more symbolic of her readiness to improve her EC credentials than endorsement of the man whose work for EC economic and political integration she has done everything possible to frustrate.

She still opposes much that he stands for. But the evidence in Dublin was that Mrs Thatcher let her partners have their say and then she stepped in to run the show. She knows that Europe can divide her party like few other issues, and she has accepted the advice of those who have been telling her that "Yes,

but" produces better results than shouts of "No" followed by grudging capitulation.

Even 18 months ago it would have been unthinkable for her to swallow large chunks of the language in yesterday's communiqué. But, playing the part of the European character the others love to hate, she breezed into her news conference after the Twelve had agreed to the setting up of inter-governmental conferences on political and economic union and said that it was "a routine council with no great decisions". Tell that to the Bruges Group.

The era of megaphone diplomacy is over. It ended in Strasbourg last year when Mrs Thatcher let her partners have their say and then she stepped in to run the show. She knows that Europe can divide her party like few other issues, and she has accepted the advice of those who have been telling her that "Yes,

but" produces better results than shouts of "No" followed by grudging capitulation.

When Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, and President Mitterrand seemed determined to send Europe galloping off towards federalism she demanded at the first Dublin summit precisely what they meant by greater political union. The result is that the crusade has been scaled down to a revision of the working of EC institutions.

She came to Dublin seeking a study of the problems of the Soviet Union before the indiscriminate handing over of economic aid, and that is what the Twelve agreed. She came seeking a clear signal to encourage President de Klerk to continue reforms in South Africa. She did not get the first step in scaling down sanctions, but she did establish the principle of relaxation under Italy's EC presidency.

The hardest question she had to face yesterday, after re-

emphasising her opposition to the "locked in" nature of a single European currency, was why, in that case, she was preparing Britain to join the exchange rate mechanism of the European monetary system. That, she said, was because the mechanism offered "considerable latitude". But the reasons why she is now prepared to contemplate entry and why she encouraged John Major to bring forward his hard ecu plan were not economic but political.

She is currently in the business of sending signals to Europe and winning influence in the arguments about its future shape.

Mrs Thatcher re-affirmed in Dublin her opposition to a single European currency. But the timescale keeps edging down, and the rhetoric with it. Her European counterparts now believe that Britain is warming to the idea of closer European integration.

EC talks temper 'green' moves

From ROBIN OAKLEY IN DUBLIN

ATTEMPTS to speed up EC decision-making on environmental issues were watered down by heads of state and government in Dublin before they would agree to a declaration on the environment, much prized by Charles Haughey, the summit host. The Irish prime minister had sought to make his six-month term the "green presidency".

An early draft of the declaration called for the inter-governmental conference, which is to be set up in December, to "consider the extension of qualified majority voting to the council of environmental legislation", and for a review of the finances devoted by the EC to environmental issues. But the five-page document agreed at the summit yesterday, after copious revisions by officials, merely called for the conference to "address ways of accelerating community decision-making on environmental legislation" after objections by Britain and others.

It did, however, call for regular reviews by the European Commission of how member states are implementing EC environmental legislation, and for a review of the budgetary resources devoted to environmental projects.

A call for the adoption of a charter of environmental rights for citizens, including the right to breathe clean air, was watered down to a call for member states to circulate more environmental information to their citizens with the objective of guaranteeing the right to a clean and healthy environment. This would have regard to the quality of air, food and drinking water, protection against noise, protection against contamination of soil and water, the preservation of habitats and landscape and "the amenity value of residential areas".

GENEVA: The World Wildlife Fund for Nature yesterday called for an extension to the year 2000 of a ban on commercial whaling to help depleted populations recover.

It said 13,650 whales had been killed since the International Whaling Commission banned commercial whaling in 1986. Japan continued commercial whaling until 1988, and Japan, Iceland and Norway have continued killing whales for "scientific" purposes. (Reuters)

Kenya tour driver shot by gunmen

Nairobi — Gunmen robbed six Dutch tourists and killed their mini-van driver in an isolated region north of Mount Kenya, a Dutch embassy official said.

The official said the attackers shot the Kenyan driver "in cold blood" before robbing the tourists. The attack occurred last week in Samburu, about 155 miles north of here. The tourists were said to be uninjured but "tremendously shaken". (AP)

Manila order

Manila — The US Embassy has ordered the 261 American Peace Corps volunteers working in the Philippines to stay in Manila because they might be attacked by communist rebels. (Reuters)

Runner gored

Caceres — Jesús Martín Domínguez, aged 38, was gored to death as he ran with bulls in the streets of Coria in southwestern Spain, police said. (Reuters)

Killer executed

Warner, Arkansas — Gene Simmons was put to death by lethal injection two years after he pleaded in court for a swift execution for murdering 16 people. (AP)

Landslip kills 9

Dhaka — Nine people were buried alive under mud and stones and 300 others were left homeless after a landslide struck a village in southern Bangladesh, police said.

Prison shooting

New York — A prison inmate has been convicted of murdering two detectives with a gun when they left him alone in a squad room. (AP)

Fiji shake-up

Sydney — Fiji's Great Council of Chiefs announced that it will create a new party to guarantee the political future of indigenous Fijians under a new constitution currently being drafted. (Reuters)

Growing virtue

Barcelona — Twenty Barcelona prostitutes will start work next week as £120-a-week municipal gardeners under a programme to clean up the city before the Olympic Games.

Romania puts held student leader on TV

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER AND TIM JUDAH IN BUCHAREST

A ROMANIAN student leader, widely rumoured to have been killed by rampaging miners in the recent violence, appeared on state television yesterday as the government struggled to defuse widespread international criticism of its initial detention of more than 1,000 people.

As part of the drive to improve its tarnished international image, the ruling National Salvation Front also released the numbers of people still in detention and permitted the International Red Cross to visit the 177 people still being held.

Coming on the eve of the appointment of a new government team led by Petre Roman, the prime minister, the release of information about the detainees was seen in diplomatic circles as evidence of the front's recognition of the damage done to its attempt to portray an image of democracy.

Marian Munteanu, aged 28, the leader of the Students League and the main organiser of the anti-government protest in Bucharest which was broken up on June 13, was interviewed in a prison hospital near the capital where he is recovering from severe injuries, including a fractured skull inflicted by the miners who were summoned by the government.

Many of the students and others held in makeshift detention centres had been

earlier informed by interrogators that Mr Munteanu was dead. He was later seized from his bed in the main emergency hospital and taken into custody.

In yesterday's bizarre interview, Mr Munteanu denied charges of inciting the violence which raged between June 13 and 15 in which at least six people died and brought the government of President Ion Iliescu, a former Communist official, close to collapse.

"From a medical viewpoint, I am all right," said Mr Munteanu, whose wife Claudia, a violinist, had sought refuge for a number of days in

the Netherlands embassy. "I want to say to all those who are listening to me at this moment that I have been under arrest for a week now on the basis of a warrant which brings totally unfounded charges against me."

Mrs Munteanu, who has received repeated death threats, said: "It was a great relief when I saw my husband on television. Until that happened I had real doubts about what had happened to him. My present feeling is that now he has been allowed to appear on television and face the charges, he will not fear trial."

The circumstances of Mr Munteanu's detention, beating and capture from his hospital bed prompted widespread international protests. The Romanian prosecutor said yesterday that he was the only student still under arrest. He gave no indication of the whereabouts of Dumitru Dinca and Nica Leon, two other leaders of the protests who had been also detained.

Mrs Munteanu's flight to the embassy provoked bitter recriminations against the Netherlands from the authorities, who claimed in a communiqué that Mr Munteanu, one of the most articulate opponents of the government, was held on criminal charges and was not a political detainee.

Many observers believe the harsh treatment handed out to him is designed as a deterrent to prevent any recurrence of anti-government protests. So far the tactic appears to have worked but student leaders said privately they will eventually return to the streets because they claim the government is still dominated by communists.

Details of the brutal treatment meted out to the detainees have begun to appear in Romanian opposition newspapers, which have resumed publication. They were temporarily suspended following intimidation of Bucharest's print workers by the miners.

Confirmation of the ugly nature of the operation was given by many of those now

freed. Some said they had originally believed that Mr Munteanu would be given a 10-year prison sentence, but thought that in the improved climate, it would be a reduced term.

Rodica Arsenie, herself a member of the front, told of how she was bundled into a car and beaten as she was being driven to Bucharest police headquarters. There she found about 30 other women in a basement room filled with water, their hands crudely bound by wire because the authorities claimed to have run out of handcuffs.

She said an officer pushed her into the room where the women were being forced to sit in the water which had leaked. "Put this hooker in as well. Let her get her backside wet," the policeman said without realising she was a front member. Later she escaped with the help of other officers who recognised her, but not before the police had stolen her handbag and a valuable necklace.

The many accounts of ill-treatment are now being investigated, but one Romanian, Gabriel Andreescu, who had accompanied members of the Helsinki Federation, said that, when questions were asked about the state of the prisoners, they were "accused of being fascists and told in Ceausescu fashion to stop interfering in the internal affairs of Romania".

Elsewhere, a group of



In the limelight: Marian Munteanu speaking from his Bucharest prison hospital bed in a TV interview

'Disneyworld' of Stalinism to close

From NICHOLAS BESTON IN MOSCOW

A SMALL band of faithful make their way past the girl with dyed blond hair selling "KGB" T-shirts, ignore the young man doing brisk business with a stack of anti-Communist newspapers and pay 30 kopeks (30p) to enter one of Moscow's last socialist sanctuaries.

Time is running out for the Exhibition of National Economic Achievements. For those making the pilgrimage, many of them from the provinces, this may be their final opportunity to visit the 750-acre park before the irresistible forces of change destroy the city's last oasis of Stalinism.

The economy may be on its knees and the Communist party on the verge of losing its supremacy, but time has stood still in this corner of north Moscow where five-year plans are met and the workers have stayed united.

Loudspeakers play martial music, and aged caretakers unbolt the doors to exhibits extolling the achievements of a prosperous workers' paradise.

Here Chernobyl is forgotten and a father leads his wife and two sons into the "Atomic Energy" pavilion pointing with pride at models of the now notorious Soviet nuclear reactors.

Elsewhere, a group of

schoolgirls tour the "Grain" exhibit taking notes from their teacher about the accomplishments of Soviet agriculture.

There is even a small crowd outside the North Korean exhibit where Muscovites, always on the lookout for something to buy, are snapping up packets of Asian herbal medicines and ginseng tea.

Visitors, however, are spared a trip to the "Electronics" pavilion, the "House of Culture" and the "Technical Education" building. These are closed because their neoclassical Stalinist facades are falling apart. Even the hardy are not tempted into the "Mining" showcase or the "Electrification Hall", where everything from spark-plugs to hydraulic supports are laid out in painstaking detail. The janitors look up in surprise when a visitor walks into these rooms.

But all of the exhibition halls now seem destined for an ignominious end at the hands of foreign business executives.

This week Ivan Fedorov, the director of a joint Soviet-European consortium, which has won the contract to develop the park, announced plans to do away with "these false achievements" and "to breathe new life into these old buildings".

In the next few years the Stalinist "Disneyworld" will be transformed into a Western-style commercial exhibition centre. The developers want to copy the American idea of creating a space centre for children.

Several of the existing exhibits will be amalgamated, removed or quietly disposed of. "We will establish a real site for modern technology which will yield good profits," promises Mr Fedorov.

● Moscow denial: The Soviet Union yesterday denied that there had been any unauthorised movements of nuclear weapons resulting from concern over their safety in rebellious Soviet republics.

The Foreign ministry spokesman, Gennadi Gerasimov, told a press briefing that there was no need to move Soviet troops equipped with nuclear weapons around the country.

Gorbachev stumbles, page 12

Berliners campaign to reverse their capital loss

From ANNE McELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

THE Cheshire cat-like grin of Walter Momper, the popular mayor of West Berlin, has been a familiar sight since his city and his importance expanded unexpectedly with the fall of the Wall in November.

He has rarely grinned as broadly, however, as he did yesterday when he emerged vaulting new stickers depicting the Brandenburg Gate, with the slogan: "Berlin — the Capital".

Herr Momper is known within his party, the Social Democrats, as a politician who prefers to determine events rather than limp along behind them. He is already a beneficiary of unification and is tipped as a rising star and successor to the troubled Oskar Lafontaine of

the Social Democrats. But his latest offensive to have Berlin declared the capital of Germany as soon as possible after reunification in December has bruised the collective sensibilities of the Bonn establishment and its attempts to cling to its role.

Together with his East Berlin counterpart, Tino Schwesing, Herr Momper has invited Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, to a public discussion on the capital question, adding with what a Bonn spokesman coolly described as "Berlin humour" that the talk "can take place in Bonn, but even better in Berlin".

Even the more circumspect Lothar de Maizière, the East German prime minister, has unexpectedly thrown his hat into the ring by declaring that Bonn is using the

"threadbare argument" of the continued presence of Soviet troops in Berlin to delay declaring it the future capital. He wants to see Berlin's role enshrined in the unity treaty later this year.

Herr Momper is certainly right when he says that most Germans consider Berlin their "natural capital" even though North-Rhine-Westphalians will bemoan the inevitable loss of face for their Cologne, chic Düsseldorf and worthy Bonn, if and when the transfer of power occurs.

The main gripe of the Bavarians, who are only ever bothered with Munich anyway, is that Berlin is traditionally left-wing and nearly in Poland.

Berliners, on the other hand, are already convinced that the capital is their bar the shouting. To drive

around the city with a Bonn number plate these days is to experience un concealed glances of disdain and shouts of "not for much longer" and "country mouse".

Hostesses on the banks of the Rhine now complain that they can no longer tempt the glitterati of the Federal Republic's capital to their parties as they all leave in droves for Berlin on a Friday night.

East Germans are particularly keen on the idea of Berlin as the capital because, as a New Forum campaigner of November fame and present indignity put it: "We deserve something in return for all the effort of dismantling the German Democratic Republic."

Herr de Maizière also considers a swift move to Berlin essential to promote an economic upswing in East Germany. The mayors of both

halves of the divided city have called on the authorities in Bonn to stop the construction of all public buildings there. They want the first joint German parliament to take up residence in the Reichstag, no doubt after a suitable ceremony dissociating the building from its ignominious Nazi past.

The 15,000 officials and civil servants in Bonn are meanwhile lobbying Herr Kohl with increasing desperation to issue a statement guaranteeing a continuing role for the city as the administrative nerve centre, even if the parliament and ministries do make the move to Berlin.

They too have joined the battle of the badges. The latest sight to appear alongside a Bonn number plate is a sticker reading: "Bonn remains the capital".

Bombers to drive b Tamil re at Jaff

Yeltsin seek

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Bombers fail to drive back Tamil rebels at Jaffna

From JAMES PRINGLE IN COLOMBO

SRI Lankan Air Force planes yesterday bombed Tamil rebel positions around the old Dutch fort in Jaffna, where wounded government troops desperately need medical help as food and medicines run out. Military sources confirmed the bombing without giving details, but admitted the attempt had failed and Tamil rebels entrenched in their well-fortified bunkers were still firing rockets into the fort. Colombo quickly denied an accusation by the rebels that the air force had used napalm in the attack.

Though details are sketchy and phone lines to Jaffna, the northern city that is the heartland of the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, are down, sources in Colombo said that the bombers had silenced some rebel mortar positions round the old grey fort, which has been under siege since fighting resumed here more than two weeks ago.

The presence of about 245 soldiers and policemen in the fort, which was built by the Dutch on the site of earlier Portuguese fortifications, has become a symbol of the Colombo government's determination to crush the Tigers, who broke a year-long truce with a series of attacks earlier this month.

While some foreign military attaches here believe that the government's position may become untenable in the thick-walled citadel, others say the Sri Lankan armed forces will attempt to hold it at all costs.

Sources here say that in the past 24 hours the Sri Lankan Air Force has initiated heavy bombing and strafing attacks on the devastated area around the fort which even a few months ago looked like parts of Beirut.

Helicopter gunships have also been machine-gunning and rocketing Tiger bunkers after dropping leaflets on the area telling civilians to flee. "We can only assume casualties are high among the civilian population," one foreign envoy here said.

The air force has also been making drops of food and medical supplies to the 245 soldiers and policemen holding out in the fort, which contains a fine old Dutch church where the remains of British colonial administrators are interred.

Many of the air-dropped packages have landed in the nearby lagoon or within Tiger-held territory, but at least some have reached the beleaguered garrison.

The moss-covered fort is no stranger to sieges. In 1658 the Portuguese held out here for three months when under attack by their Dutch foes, and, with one-in-three of their 4,000 men dead, were reduced to eating dogs and cats.

Finally they surrendered with honour and marched out with banners flying, muskets loaded and with a field pack — though they were too weak to drag the latter.

There will be no chivalrous departure of defeated enemies this time, however, in this land of ethnic and religious hatred where massacres of opponents are almost commonplace. That is partly why the garrison is likely to try to hold out at all costs.

In the east of Sri Lanka, a senior police official in Ampara, an administrative headquarters, said that government troops and police were moving up the coastal road towards the former resort town of Batticaloa and that the smaller town of Kalmunai was firmly in government hands.

The official denied some reports that there had been a massacre of up to 100 Tamils in the town after the armed forces and police re-entered during the past few days. "There has been no massacre here and the situation in the town is stabilising," the official said.

Though there have indeed been massacres, involving Tamils and majority Sinhalese in the area, a report last week of another massacre of 63 Muslims in a nearby town turned out to be unfounded.



Flowers of faith: Young hilltribe novices carrying lotus flowers to a Bangkok temple for a ceremony marking the Buddhist Lent, which falls on July 8

Western doctors complain of Iranian ban on travel

From JAMIE DETTMER IN TEHRAN

FOREIGN doctors complained yesterday of being prevented from travelling to remote areas in northwest Iran to help earthquake survivors, and despite Iranian ministers saying that foreign aid workers were welcome and put to good use, Western doctors say they are being wasted.

Both said it was now unlikely that more survivors would be found. However, there were reports yesterday that a one-year-old baby had been found alive in a remote village 30 miles from Manjil.

Authorities were unable to confirm the report last night. According to Iranian rescue workers in Manjil, members of a Red Crescent team found the infant lying in a bed under rubble.

Foreign rescue groups are sceptical of the claim. They say that anyone buried under would probably die from suffocation caused by the large amount of dust generated by the earthquake.

According to André Laake, the leader of a French team, interior minister, said foreign relief workers were welcome. Iraj Sazel, the health minister, also denied that Iran was discouraging doctors from coming to help with the rescue operation.

The quake unleashed rockslides that carried tons of rubble down on villages and towns already full of dust and grit from collapsed houses. Some foreign relief teams and local Iranian authorities are now putting the death toll higher than 70,000. Mullahs have announced that Islamic law governing burial rights can be postponed. They agreed mass burials can continue and that men and women can be put in the same grave without the bodies being washed or wrapped in special shrouds.

Foreign aid continued to flow into Iran yesterday. The government accepted weekend offers of help from Saudi Arabia. The first of 40 Saudi C130 transport planes are expected today. Saudi Arabia, which backed Iraq in the Gulf War, was attacked in the Iranian parliament yesterday along with the United States, Britain and France.

Mandela makes history in US

From REUTER IN WASHINGTON

NELSON Mandela yesterday called on the US Congress to lock arms with members of his anti-apartheid movement to form a "solid phalanx" to batter down racial barriers in South Africa.

The African National Congress leader, in a rousing 45-minute speech interrupted repeatedly by applause, told a joint session of Congress that the day apartheid ends may be near. He offered his vision of a free South Africa and held out the hope that the United States and a non-racial, democratic South Africa would be allies.

"The day may not be far when we will borrow the words of Thomas Jefferson and speak of the will of the South African nation," said Mr Mandela, who was given a standing ovation before and after his speech to the crowded chamber of the House of Representatives.

"Let that day come now," he said. "Let us keep our arms locked together so that we form a solid phalanx against racism to ensure that day comes now."

Washington is the third city of an eight-city tour as part of Mr Mandela's campaign to ensure that sanctions are maintained. Security was extraordinary, with police ringing the Capitol, after a report of a death threat which was, however, flatly denied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr Mandela, aged 71, who was freed from prison in February after 27 years, appealed to Congress to keep up the pressure of economic sanctions against South Africa. He asked for economic help for

Vatican rebuke to rebel thinkers

By CLIFFORD LONGLEY
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS EDITOR

THE Vatican published its response yesterday to a chorus of public criticism by Roman Catholic theologians. It chastised them for resorting to the mass media and denied that there was such a thing as a "right to dissent" in the Church.

The response came in a 27-page document signed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Last year academic theologians in Germany, Italy, France and elsewhere issued a series of public complaints of abuses of authority by the Vatican and of increasing restrictions on theological enquiry.

The Vatican's response is firm but conciliatory. It accepts that theologians may encounter "difficulties" with official Catholic teaching. Although the congregation does not discuss specific issues, such as contraception, it states that in such cases a theologian must "avoid turning to the mass media".

Instead he will have "recourse to the responsible authority. It is not by seeking to exert the pressure of public opinion that one contributes to the clarification of doctrinal issues and renders service to the truth."

One of the main grievances of the dissenting theologians was that the Vatican did not seem willing to engage in dialogue. This was why many of them had resorted to public statements. The Vatican's response hints it will now be more prepared to listen.

The congregation, itself staffed by theologians, praises the role of theologians as being to pursue in a particular way an ever deeper understanding of the Word of God found in the scriptures and handed on by the living tradition of the church.

"He does this in communion with the magisterium which has been charged with the responsibility of preserving the deposit of faith," it states. The theologian should be an instrument of the faith rather than its analyst.

Rejecting the idea that faith can be logically explained or analysed, it compares faith to love and says that "love is ever desirous of a better knowledge of the beloved".

The document underlines the unchangeable solidity of those aspects of Catholic dogma regarded as infallible, as well as the permanence of points of faith in the ordinary teaching, or magisterium, of the Catholic Church which, unlike that which is deemed infallible, could in theory be changed.

It concludes with a stern warning against dissent. "The freedom of the act of faith cannot justify a right to dissent. This freedom does not indicate freedom with regard to the truth, but signifies the free determination of the person in conformity with his moral obligation to accept the truth."

Yeltsin seeks delay of Soviet party congress

From NICHOLAS BEESTON IN MOSCOW

BORIS Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation, yesterday proposed that next week's Soviet Communist party congress should be postponed until the autumn.

The announcement at a press conference in Moscow added to growing speculation that reformists in the Soviet Communist party were trying to buy time after the election on Saturday of Ivan Polozkov, a reputed hardliner, as first secretary of the Russian Communist party.

is critical because delegates will be voting in new members to all senior party posts. It was originally scheduled for 1991, but was brought forward twice by President Gorbachev in order to force through the election of more reformists in the ranks of the leadership.

Mr Yeltsin said: "I tend to feel the congress should be put back so that it can be prepared more substantially and more thoroughly and that it should not be held in the same great haste as were the Russian conference and congress."

Russian delegates will make up a majority of delegates at the Soviet congress on Monday, and Mr Yeltsin appeared to be voicing the concerns of his supporters in the Democratic Platform, who fear a conservative backlash against the reform process.

Mr Yeltsin said that the fate of the congress would lie with the plenum of the party's central committee, at which he predicted conservatives and liberals would clash over the decision. "This plenum will be very difficult. There

will be a real struggle. Some people caught up in the mood of the Russian congress are for holding the congress now," said Mr Yeltsin, himself a member of the 250-man central committee. "Others, in order to somehow stabilise the political atmosphere which is now taking shape, will be for putting the congress back a bit, perhaps until the autumn."

The jockeying for position at the top of the party does not seem to have deterred Mr Yeltsin's appetite to press on with radical reforms in the

Russian Federation. Yesterday he promised to introduce the first multi-party government in Russia since the revolution, where both Communists and non-Communists would hold cabinet posts.

On Monday night Mr Yeltsin said he planned to withhold funds from the central Soviet government and set up his own central bank.

● VILNIUS: Lithuanian deputies yesterday were waiting anxiously to see what news President Landsbergis would bring back from his surprise visit to Mr Gorbachev (Anatol Lieven writes). The visit to Moscow was not announced in advance even to senior members of his government.

Those who support Kazimieras Prunskis, the prime minister, and a compromise with Moscow, hope Professor Landsbergis will finally declare his open support for a temporary moratorium on Lithuania's declaration of independence. This is the last condition being set by Moscow for an end to Soviet economic sanctions and the beginning of negotiations on independence.

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Charges after mass grave found

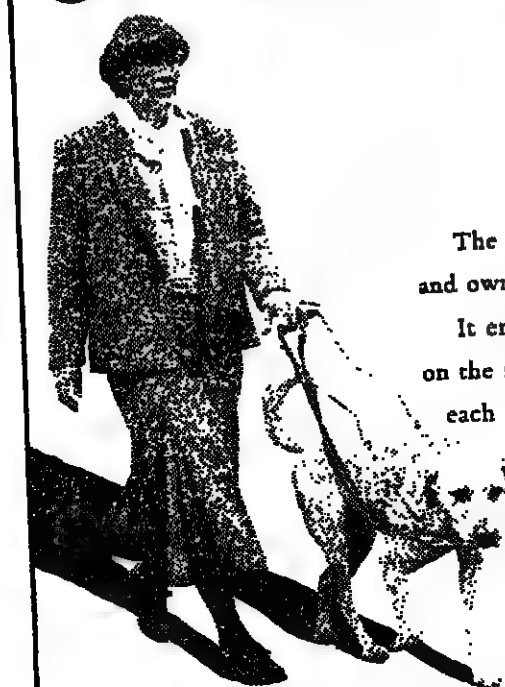
From A CORRESPONDENT IN SANTIAGO

RELATIVES of 18 peasant leaders found with their throats slit in a new mass grave discovered this weekend have filed criminal charges of illegal burial against the killers, allegedly members of Chile's army. The grave was found in Chihuio, located near the city of Valdivia, 500 miles south of here.

Two former army personnel, who allegedly participated in the slayings, led officials to the grave site. The peasants have been reported as missing since October 1973, one month after General Augusto Pinochet, now commander-in-chief of the armed forces, led a bloody coup that overthrew former President Allende.

The mass grave is the second big find this month after the Pisagua discovery in the north, where 30 bodies were recovered. Authorities are continuing to search for more bodies around Pisagua, located in the Atacama Desert.

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Family in a state of flux

Martin Jacques

Ms Thatcher's suggestion at the weekend that family life might be the subject of major legislation for a future Conservative government is a reminder of one of the great ironies of the 1980s. The dominant political rhetoric of the decade, spearheaded by the radical right, was the importance of the traditional family and the need to restore its position. Yet it is now evident that it was precisely during this decade that the traditional family was being undermined by dramatic change.

Thus, continuing the trend of the Seventies, 37 per cent of marriages were projected to end in divorce. One consequence of this has been the growth in the number of single-parent families, to 14 per cent of all families with children. Cohabitation became almost the norm prior to marriage for most young couples. Even more significantly, increasing numbers of cohabiting couples had children without getting married.

A report just published by Kathleen Kiernan and Malcolm Wicks, *Family Change and Future Policy*, shows that these changes are not an unfortunate side-effect of the mispent Sixties when women went on the pill and everyone became promiscuous, but are deeply embedded in the mores of society. They are international rather than national, and are set to continue throughout the Nineties and into the next century. In the year 2000, the authors say, the number of children experiencing conventional family life — a stable marriage throughout their upbringing — could fall to 50 per cent; the divorce rate may rise to 40 per cent and child-rearing through cohabitation will become even more common than now.

Against this backdrop, the political debate over the last ten years seems caught in a time-war, unable to adjust to the new realities. In particular, the present obsessions of the radical right suggest an inability to understand the direction in which history is moving. Making divorce harder, discriminating against single parents, encouraging women to stay at home (though on this they are contradictory) suggest a preoccupation with preventing trends that are irresistible rather than trying to understand them. Worse, they pass moral judgment on those growing numbers who choose not to live in traditional family style. In particular, the single parent is held responsible for the rise of juvenile crime, the spread of child abuse, and ultimately the breakdown of our social fabric.

It is hard to understand why the changes affecting the family are so often painted in such gloomy colours. Some of the trends mentioned in the report — the growing number of couples living together before marriage, more single households among the young and,

above all, the huge increase in the number of women going out to work — are surely to be welcomed.

The problem is that the debate has been dominated by moral preconceptions about the forms that are acceptable and those that are not. Here, politics lags behind much popular thinking and experience. The Thatcherites may be the biggest culprits, but Labour has been little better, either mulling similar platitudes or staying virtually silent.

The political debate needs completely new parameters, as both the Kiernan-Wicks report and a forthcoming one by Anna Coote for the Institute for Public Policy Research argue. The starting point must be a recognition of the changes and acceptance that they are beyond the control of the most powerful politician. A priori judgments about the superiority of one family form over another play down the importance of research and obstruct cool-headed debate. We live in an era of epochal change in which the traditional family, based on breadwinning dad and stay-at-home, caring mum, performing sharply differentiated roles, is giving way to new, more flexible forms in which the role of men and women will be increasingly less polarised.

The sooner that fact is faced, rather than morally dismissed together with vain attempts to roll back history, the sooner the problems thrown up by these changes can be tackled. Like all great social change, the process is painful and the victims are many, not least because social policy, the welfare state, education, the law and work are still geared to the old rather than the new.

Take single parents. Over the last few years, the proportion of single mothers taking paid work has decreased markedly. At a period when their numbers are likely to increase, when it is important to break the cycle of deprivation and when young workers will be at a premium, a new policy approach is required based on support and encouragement, not ostracism. Similarly, given the increase in cohabitation, public policy and the law need to be modified so that they no longer discriminate against it.

The very nature of work itself needs to be redefined. Many families (particularly working women) suffer from overload. Men should be more involved in childcare, but that means they must be able to get time off to look after a sick child — and today that is anathema to most employers. Moreover, given that so many marriages end in divorce, fathers are more likely to take some subsequent responsibility for their children if they have spent more time with them previously.

We are talking about a completely different approach from that prevailing now. Politicians must catch up with the times.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

Sphere Books have announced the publication of *Costa del Sol*, a sex-thriller by the former president of the Liberal Party. "In Des Wilson," runs their excited publicity release, "the Liberal Democrats have produced their own Jeffrey Archer."

A Liberal Democratic sex-thriller will be viewed by many as a contradiction in terms. But a sneak preview of chapter one should convince anyone that sex and thrills sit comfortably beside the slow procedures and devout pressure groups beloved of all Liberals.

Des was a man of resolution: Resolution 14, with composite amendments to prevailing infrastructures on a national and regional basis, to be exact. And he was a man with a mission, and that mission was set out in the community-based pamphlet, *Non-Smoking, Animal Rights, Bicyclists for a More Grassroots Approach to Proportional Representation in the Environment*.

With a fierce tug and a violent pull, Des finally managed to loop the strap on his sandal. He leapt into his woolly as if his life depended on it, defiantly piercing its resolute fabric with the sharp end of a badge: "Raffia-Workers Demand Chick-Peas," it read. He was that sort of guy.

The door was closed. He would have to open it if he wanted to leave. He looked at the handle. If he pressed it down and pulled it towards him, the door would open. If he did nothing, it would stay closed. It was a tough decision, but he pressed down the handle and pulled it towards him, without even bothering to refer the decision to a regional committee for grassroots debate.

Before he could say, "Robert is my father's brother, which makes him my mother's brother-in-law, my grandmother's son, my son's great-uncle, his uncle's nephew and my uncle, I trust that clarifies the position, could I see a show of hands," he observed a naked lady on the landing.

"I love a man," she purred, the reflection of her breasts glinting on his "Quiche On Demand" badge, "with bits of mussels in his beard." A bit of mussels back-combed into the beard, a Campaign for

Real Ale slogan nestling on a T-shirt, an alfalfa sprout poking discreetly from an ear: all these made it hard for her to resist Des's invitation to participate in a fringe meeting.

"Were you the chairwoman of the Ratsatouille for the Under-Fives Campaign?" he asked.

"None of your sexist chairwoman," she replied. "Just chair if you don't mind."

The naked chair then plunged into Des's room, pinning him to his bean-bag. Never before, thought Des, had he met anyone so caring, so compassionate. "You," he breathed as she struggled to remove her fingers, which had become caught up in the toggles of his duffelcoat, "you're all chair to me."

In the sparkling light of the morning sun as it twinkled, twinkled, twinkled, by a clear majority of three, through the window, their bodies seemed to effect a merger of like-minded splinter-groups resolving to work together on a fully-functional basis within an overall framework of participative interaction. Des had never in his life known anything so... so concerned.

And then it happened. Through an open window rocketed with great force one of the most terrifying objects Des had ever seen. From the outside, it looked like an ordinary paper dart, such as a fantasy-orientated child might make in a positive paper-art manufacturing environment. But it opened to reveal a haunting image that sent a chill right through Des's woolly. "What is it? What is it, Des?" exclaimed the naked chair, seeing Des's face drain to the colour of a still-blank addendum slip, not that she had ever set eyes upon such a thing. "It's, it's, it's... THE DOCTOR." Des stared in horror. "THE TIME HAS COME... AGAIN," read the slogan. Above it loomed the unmistakable features of the demon he thought they had killed off all those years ago. This called for more than action. In fact, it called for immediate co-operation between consultative committees under normal procedural guidelines. Something had to be done — and fast.

NOW READ ON!

Michael Heseltine supports the Chancellor in moving, however slightly, to monetary union

Europe: listen to the businessman

Yesterday's leader in *The Times* sought to undermine John Major's initiative on the "hard" *ecu*. Its stand should be fiercely resisted. *The Times* talks of straying into the darkest territory. The outer darkness it appears to contemplate is that of being on the fringe of a mighty, Franco-German-dominated, industrial economy. That is the logic of the journey the newspaper seems to want to take, but it is one upon which no warm-blooded British patriot should be prepared to join.

The sensitivities of chauvinism carry significant economic penalties. The more we deride what is happening on the continent — socialists lurking under every Napoleonic bed — the more the Brummie businessman switches off. We need him to understand the urgency to go out there and win. There is a real competitive threat and it needs clear presentation to every British audience.

I belong to the "Britain first" school of politics. Our markets are increasingly European and, in responding to the process, unashamed national self-interest has to prevail. This is not particularly surprising. I have never found continental politicians motivated in any other way.

So I see the summits — Madrid, Dublin and Dublin-revisited — as a healthy recognition by this country that we have much to gain from a more closely aligned monetary policy and, potentially, a common currency.

The politics of the process are far from easy. One minority view wants full federalism. Another wishes Britain out of the whole process. Yet another hopes the structure will become looser. Effort, but in every *Efta* country the business world wants full EC membership.

Most British citizens take a more balanced European view. They know that change is on the agenda, is unlikely to be reversed and will involve us, *faute de mieux*. They believe Britain has much to contribute. I agree.

If we had adopted a half-hearted approach to the creation of the single market, the investment by our companies and overseas inward investment would have flowed to more committed players. We were the first to ratify the Single European Act. Scotland, Wales and the regions are being transformed. Common rules and regulations have to be policed. Inevitably there is a bureaucracy. But a real market, exploiting its full potential, is not just about industrial standards. It is about confidence in its economic and monetary stability. Today, London is Europe's pre-eminent financial market. But throughout the single market other financial centres are deregulating and becoming more competitive.

Again, the international banking community, heavily concentrated here, will wish to be based close to the operating arm of a European bank. London is in prime position to capture this market and achieve the standardisation of the trading in European government bonds that will be central to the monetary management of a central bank. For Britain to remain outside any monetary union would be to give our competitors a psychological boost, with incalculable consequences for the City.

The most important aspect of what John Major said is that he

expressed popular aspirations; and Boris Yeltsin has long indicated that he does not regard himself as yet another of those politicians and institutions among which Gorbachev can deftly manoeuvre.

Signs exist that Mr Gorbachev may be awakening to the danger. Boris Yeltsin sat beside him at the Russian federation's party congress, and their aides discussed rapprochement. The fact that Mr Yeltsin wants more rapid progress to democratic political reforms and a market economy, as well as sovereignty for all the Soviet republics, may nudge Mr Gorbachev faster in the same direction.

But it is Mr Yeltsin who now leads the charge for democratisation from the front, and Mr Gorbachev who calculates how fast to follow. Mr Gorbachev has acknowledged some past mistakes, especially about the separatist inclination of the non-Russian republics. He has been less forthcoming about economic error. The original blunder of promoting reform in industry rather than agriculture has been criticised by his adviser, Petrakov, but not by Mr Gorbachev; and there remains only one economist on his presidential council. As for politics, the failure to link up wholeheartedly even with the communist radicals persists.

Mr Yeltsin has high-scoring cards in bargaining with the politicians who want democratisation and marketisation. But he is not unequivocally attractive. Few have illusions about him. He is an ex-Brezhnevite: he used authoritarian methods as Moscow party chief in 1986-87. His temperament is unpredictable. But he is a good listener, and his general policies are more realistic than Mr Gorbachev's. He is recognised to have the ability to unfurl an alternative banner under which the troops of democracy and the market may rally.

If the Yeltsin-Gorbachev understandings are not achieved, and if the conservative trend is consolidated, Mr Gorbachev will quickly become the loser. The negotiations in advance of the much-awaited 28th congress will help to determine the country's destiny. The author is Reader in Soviet History and Politics at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London.

Thatcher has shown she is as energetic as ever. We have not run out of steam, but I fear we have become middle-aged. We must continue to say the unsayable.

● *Red faces at the Methodist Conference in Cardiff: the cover of the handbook shows a map of Wales omitting the Isle of Anglesey. An almost growing apology from the Rev Laurie Campbell has been inserted. "I take full responsibility for this distressing mistake and wish to make a full apology to all of you and particularly to the people of the Cymru and North Wales districts and of Anglesey." Further placating the principle's sensitive souls, the apology is printed in Welsh.*

● *Composers are perfectionists. Honing every note and every musicality in the pursuit of sublimity. But how on earth does John Cage think he can improve on his 1950s composition, 4'33" — a work which consists of four minutes and 33 seconds of total silence. Recently, Cage went to Japan to perform the composition and consider how he would write the work today. "I decided to have the sound of the air brought up to the level of feedback as I went up to the stage so that we knew we were in a dangerous situation. Then I went and sat in the audience, where I stayed until I felt the piece was over. The feedback went down when I went back to the stage and bowed. That's what we're living in now, a period of urgency and anxiety where we may no longer have silence." Will future musicologists insist upon the original version — played exclusively, of course, on period instruments?*

Robert Service sees power through manipulation breaking down in the face of Yeltsin's radical appeal

In preparing for the forthcoming 28th Soviet Communist party congress, Mikhail Gorbachev has been relying on the chaos in Soviet institutions to help maintain his political mastery. Muddling his way to reforms has become an art form. Of late, though, there have been strong signs that this was ill-advised. Boris Yeltsin's surge to the presidency of the Russian federation was a blow to Mr Gorbachev and the disarray might now lead to the congress's postponement. It was never this under Brezhnev. The orderliness of Soviet public life, with the politburo deciding policies for all institutions of party and government, was once renowned.

Since the first congress of people's deputies last year, much authority has been transferred from the party to parliamentary, governmental and presidential bodies; at the same time, new organs have proliferated within the party and other institutions. For a while, the policy confusion has given Mr Gorbachev greater space for high-political manoeuvre.

It was in this spirit that he hoped with setbacks at last week's founding congress of the Russian Federation's Communist party. He disliked the plan to form such a party, which is far from being a resurrected version of that of the revolutionary era. Lenin's "Russian Communist party" was not confined to Russia but laid claim to all the former tsarist empire under Soviet rule. Gorbachev faces a political threat unknown by his predecessors.

His style has been to turn the diversity of such threats to advantage. The Russian federation does not speak with one political mind. It has a new president, Boris Yeltsin, who wants a more radical perestroika, and the newer party chief, Ivan Polozkov, who detests perestroika. Nor has the Russian federation ever thought with one mind. One person in five is non-Russian. The Tatar region, for example, has few Russians, and already the Tatars have made a little-noticed appeal to Gorbachev to protect their interests.

Until recently, such complications have not harmed Mr Gorbachev. He has faced not clear-cut institutional resistance but opposition which is divided along national, political and economic lines. Thus he has been disingenuous in urging that communists should not indulge in factionalism. Factionalism not only existed at the Russian federation's party congress but was advertised with pamphlets and placards. Delegates did not just huddle away in smoke-filled rooms; like the audience at the Bolshoi ballet they promenade openly in groups in the corridors during the intervals.

Mr Gorbachev's refusal to take sides keeps him supreme as he exploits the tension between party, government and parliament, which partly explains his reluctance to alter the existing system to the extent of multi-party electoral competition. Another reason is more brutal. The fate of several communist leaders in Eastern Europe in 1989 must have rattled him. In Poland, Hungary and East Germany they contested multi-party elections and were trounced. Consequently, as recently as May 1990, Mr Gorbachev repeated that the Soviet Communist party should continue to play its Leninist "vanguard role" to the exclusion of other parties.

He has some strange supporters in this attitude. There are non-communists, such as the writer Valentin Rasputin (a member of his presidential council), who wants party rule maintained in order to obtain a non-communist state; and there are "communists" such as Alexander Tsipko (who served in the central committee's secretariat) who want state policies rejigged in the direction of western liberal parties.

So the party, although reduced in status and authority, is still important. The continuing power of local party officials is undoubtedly an obstacle for Mr Gorbachev. Half the elected dele-

gates from the Russian federation to the congress will be full-time party officials, even though their opinions are shared by only a tiny minority of ordinary party members. But Mr Gorbachev, too, has stacked up victories. He has arranged for his presidential council to meet more often than the party's politburo; and his political rival, Yegor Ligachev, who was excluded from the presidential council's membership, criticises him for bringing forth the recent economic-reform proposals not from the central party bodies but from the presidential council. Certain provincial party leaders have been still more outspoken. Glasnost allows us to inspect the verbatim record of the central committee meetings. In December, Mr Gorbachev answered the

charge that he tailored foreign policy to suit the wishes of the Pope; his refusal to bend before his accusers shows that he can still make the pips squeak.

The trouble is that muddling through to reforms is no longer enough. The economic crisis may soon produce political disaster for Mr Gorbachev as well as mass penury for the Soviet population. The anger of ordinary citizens is no longer simply suppressible. Whether or not Mr Gorbachev formally admits it, multi-party politics have arrived. They are at their most robust in the non-Russian republics and healthier in Moscow than elsewhere in Russia. But anti-communist parties do exist. Mr Gorbachev, the master of institutional politics, has failed to adjust to the politics of openly-

rushing out their own pamphlet urging more right-wing ideas on a government whose radical edge they fear has been blunted. This back-sliding, they feel, has spilled over into the No Turning Back group as well, principally because about half its 24 members are now ministers (among them Michael Portillo, Angela Rumbold and Francis Maude), and public utterances have inevitably become more cautious. As a result, they fear that traditionalist "one nation" Tories such as Douglas Hurd have had things too much their own way.

Three MPs from the group, Edward Leigh, Neil Hamilton and Michael Brown, dubbed the "pressing-on group", will next month issue their own pamphlet in which they will seek to put flesh

on many of the ideas mapped out by the prime minister at the weekend. They propose unitary local authorities, more contracting out in the NHS, voucher schemes in education and a smaller regular army, with the territorial army strengthened.

Leigh says: "We cannot afford to consolidate if that implies we have gone too far too fast. Mrs

Thatcher has shown she is as energetic as ever. We have not run out of steam, but I fear we have become middle-aged. We must continue to say the unsayable.

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charge that he tailored foreign policy to suit the wishes of the Pope; his refusal to bend before his accusers shows that he can still make the pips squeak.

The trouble is that muddling through to reforms is no longer enough. The economic crisis may soon produce political disaster for Mr Gorbachev as well as mass penury for the Soviet population. The anger of ordinary citizens is no longer simply suppressible. Whether or not Mr Gorbachev formally admits it, multi-party politics have arrived. They are at their most robust in the non-Russian republics and healthier in Moscow than elsewhere in Russia. But anti-communist parties do exist. Mr Gorbachev, the master of institutional politics, has failed to adjust to the politics of openly-

rushing out their own pamphlet urging more right-wing ideas on a government whose radical edge they fear has been blunted. This back-sliding, they feel, has spilled over into the No Turning Back group as well, principally because about half its 24 members are now ministers (among them Michael Portillo, Angela Rumbold and Francis Maude), and public utterances have inevitably become more cautious. As a result, they fear that traditionalist "one nation" Tories such as Douglas Hurd have had things too much their own way.

Three MPs from the group, Edward Leigh, Neil Hamilton and Michael Brown, dubbed the "pressing-on group", will next month issue their own pamphlet in which they will seek to put flesh

on many of the ideas mapped out by the prime minister at the weekend. They propose unitary local authorities, more contracting out in the NHS, voucher schemes in education and a smaller regular army, with the territorial army strengthened.

Leigh says: "We cannot afford to consolidate if that implies we have gone too far too fast. Mrs

expressed popular aspirations; and Boris Yeltsin has long indicated that he does not regard himself as yet another of those politicians and institutions among which Gorbachev can deftly manoeuvre.

Signs exist that Mr Gorbachev may be awakening to the danger. Boris Yeltsin sat beside him at the Russian federation's party congress, and their aides discussed rapprochement. The fact that Mr Yeltsin wants more rapid progress to democratic political reforms and a market economy, as well as sovereignty for all the Soviet republics, may nudge Mr Gorbachev faster in the same direction.

But it is Mr Yeltsin who now leads the charge for democratisation from the front, and Mr Gorbachev who calculates how fast to follow. Mr Gorbachev has acknowledged some past mistakes, especially about the separatist inclination of the non-Russian republics. He has been less forthcoming about economic error. The original blunder of promoting reform in industry rather than agriculture has been criticised by his adviser, Petrakov, but not by Mr Gorbachev; and there remains only one economist on his presidential council. As for politics, the failure to link up wholeheartedly even with the communist radicals persists.

Mr Yeltsin has high-scoring cards in bargaining with the politicians who want democratisation and marketisation. But he is not unequivocally attractive. Few have illusions about him. He is an ex-Brezhnevite: he used authoritarian methods as Moscow party chief in 1986-87. His temperament is unpredictable. But he is a good listener, and his general policies are more realistic than Mr Gorbachev's. He is recognised to have the ability to unfurl an alternative banner under which the troops of democracy and the market may rally.

If the Yeltsin-Gorbachev understandings are not achieved, and if the conservative trend is consolidated, Mr Gorbachev will quickly become the loser. The negotiations in advance of the much-awaited 28th congress will help to determine the country's destiny.

The author is Reader in Soviet History and Politics at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London.

Thatcher has shown she is as energetic as ever. We have not run out of steam, but I fear we have become middle-aged. We must continue to say the unsayable.

● *Red faces at the Methodist Conference in Cardiff: the cover of the handbook shows a map of Wales omitting the Isle of Anglesey. An almost growing apology from the Rev Laurie Campbell has been inserted. "I take full responsibility for this distressing mistake and wish to make a full apology to all of you and particularly to the people of the Cymru and North Wales districts and of Anglesey." Further placating the principle's sensitive souls, the apology is printed in Welsh.*

● *Composers are perfectionists. Honing every note and every musicality in the pursuit of sublimity. But how on earth does John Cage think he can improve on his 1950s composition, 4'33" — a work which consists of four minutes and 33 seconds of total silence. Recently, Cage went to Japan to perform the composition and consider how he would write the work today. "I decided to have the sound of the air brought up to the level of feedback as I went up to the stage so that we knew we were in a dangerous situation. Then I went and sat in the audience, where I stayed until I felt the piece was over. The feedback went down when I went back to the stage and bowed. That's what we're living in now, a period of urgency and anxiety where we may no longer have silence." Will future musicologists insist upon the original version — played exclusively, of course, on period instruments?*

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LIPS CAN LIE

President Bush took a large and well-justified risk yesterday in his terse acceptance that higher taxes may be necessary to reduce the ballooning American federal deficit. The process will still be a brutal one. His three short paragraphs may not be a step towards a kinder, gentler society but they are steps towards a more realistic America. Given the stake held by the rest of the world in the orderly cutting of a deficit that is plainly out of control, a sigh of relief is called for.

Yesterday's announcement confirms the hint dropped at the start of budget talks with Congress, talks that have gone nowhere. The change has been a slow march to a destination that has probably been inevitable from the day that the president took office. The projected deficit has been revised four times this year, upwards every time, to a current total of \$160 billion. The White House has had to face higher interest rates than it claims to have expected. Bills for rescuing the savings and loans industry have continued to arrive. But neither of these events has done more than raise the stakes in a game which has remained the same.

That game has been to extricate some sensible policy from the peculiarities of the last presidential election campaign. Mr Bush had to spend his campaign in front of cameras asking the voters to "read my lips" that he would never raise taxes. As he did so, those who managed the American economy realised that despite the political popularity of such a pledge, it could not be sustained. The pledge was reckless.

A short-run outcome of this nonsense is that voters may be less inclined to believe the promises candidates make to them. There is no great harm in that if a more realistic debate occurs at the next presidential election. Since taking office, the Bush administration has always aimed to limit the political damage of a vote face on taxes. The real test of the president's bargaining skills is still to come. Democrat leaders yesterday refused to make any triumphalist noises. That must be taken as a good sign that they do not intend a wholesale demolition of the spending controls which are still in place.

The White House is no more confident now that new tax increases will be used to cut the deficit. There is no guarantee once a Democrat-controlled congress gets more tax revenues to spend that the new funds will be used to pay off the foreign bank managers, pressing on America's door as on that of any debtor nation. The president has achieved none of the

increased powers he wants to stop wasteful expenditure by congress. The pork barrel keeps on rolling.

The American electorate now enjoys one great advantage which was not available last week. The argument over getting and spending can now be conducted closer to the real merits and demerits of the case. The no-new-taxes stance had become, not a valuable campaign weapon, but an instrument for inducing political paralysis in the executive and legislative branch of government. No budget debate could go further than rhetorical warfare over "whether or not the president would move on taxes." The administration can now get down to practical action on deficit control.

Both Democrats and Republicans have now seen that the cost of continuing to fight over the budget will be higher than making peace. Without an agreement, automatic cuts under the Gramm-Rudman law in federal spending programmes of \$94 billion would be triggered at the end of the year. That fear has become real enough for both sides to stare at the prospect of recession and a bi-partisan political disaster.

Mr Bush will have to face the disappointment both of right-wing Republicans for giving in at all, and of all Republican candidates for giving up his tax pledge before the November mid-term elections. His party will not applaud him for a statesmanlike act, at least not yet. He has to show them that he can cure the nation's economic ills before he can bask in the warmth of Republican approval.

The president is in the process of reforming the coalition of voters upon which his popularity and that of his predecessor was built. Anti-communism is nowadays less potent a vote winner, but cool command of foreign policy in present flux has kept the presidential rating high. "No new taxes" may have been an unsustainable claim: but being less keen on taxes than one's opponent is still a reputation worth having.

The president is now setting the timetable for his concessions and is keeping his opponents divided. If the Democrats stay divided and if their congressional leadership remains in the president's consensual net, the outlook is good for Mr Bush. All that he did yesterday was to release himself from an artificial and self-imposed constraint. In the months ahead, he has still to resist the renewed urge to spend. He should do so with all the political strength he has: economic stability across the world depends on it.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

The bombing attack on the Carlton club in London is the kind of random terrorist strike most difficult to prevent. Apart from taking sensible and routine precautions, the authorities in other than highly sensitive defence establishments should not seek perfect prevention. The enormous cost and disruption needed to guarantee safety against such indiscriminate attack would merely give the perpetrators the attention they are seeking. They want overreaction. They should be denied it.

These periodic mainland bombing campaigns are based on the belief that a combination of fear and inconvenience will move public opinion towards the IRA's preferred solution of Ireland's troubles, increasing the pressure to "bring home the troops" until it is irresistible. The boys with the bombs think human beings can be terrorised into changing their minds. Human nature is more awkward than this. The evil of terrorism is as much in its stupidity as in its savagery.

London is approaching the 50th anniversary of the start of the blitz. Before the war it was military dogma that massive aerial bombardment would rapidly and inevitably undermine civilian morale to the point where a government would have to sue for peace. The lesson was in fact the opposite. The experience of the latter part of 1940 - far more testing than anything the IRA could perpetrate - stiffened the popular will for the long haul ahead.

If the Carlton club was chosen as the target because it was a well-known haunt of Conservative leaders, then a further lesson of that period has been ignored. Once the people of the East End of London saw that parliament and even the king were as vulnerable as the rest, there was a visible drawing together of

rulers and ruled, united against a common enemy. Monday night's bombing appears to signal a switch in IRA tactics away from military installations on the mainland towards the softer political targets it favoured in the mid-1970s. The switch is more likely to relate to internal IRA-Sinn Fein disagreement than to any sophisticated analysis. The bomb and the ballot box have never been alternative routes to the same destination. They are the means to different and contradictory ends. The aphorism that the IRA does not want to bomb the British out of Ulster, it wants to bomb the British in Ulster or wherever they are, is all too true. This nonsense lies at the heart of its whole campaign.

To kill people for a political objective, no matter how criminal that may be, makes a certain sense if the killing brings the objective nearer. If each attack, each death, pushes it further away then that is mere meaningless anarchy. In their gathering of so-called intelligence, IRA agents have ignored one of the most important items of all, evidence of the mood of the opponent.

Knowing the mainland cannot be protected against bombs, London will treat them with dismissive disgust. It is a vast and resilient city, not one community but many. A metropolis of such history, scale and spread can absorb any blow. Whatever the IRA might try, Londoners will get on with their lives, concerned by the IRA only to the extent of being determined to frustrate it in its aims whatever they are. They currently appear to be to secure maximum upset to the conduct of daily life, by the closure of streets, the searching of bags, the installation of expensive surveillance, even by the arming of police. But London learnt its defiance of all this in far graver times: "Business as usual."

PARLEZ-VOUS ANGLAIS?

The failure of most English to speak any languages but their own (which they do not speak well) is partly explained by a report published last night: they are atrociously taught. A survey by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of the standards in some of Britain's urban schools suggests a self-perpetuating web of ignorance. Nearly half the modern language lessons in the 25 schools visited last year were described as "less than satisfactory".

Britain's monoglot tendency is of long standing, but has only become critical with the approach of the single European market. A decent proficiency in at least one foreign language ought not to be exceptional. The language taught by businessmen last month that the nation's trading status would diminish unless they began to master other tongues. Prince Charles is, at least, in a reasonable position to talk. Next weekend he will be interviewed on French television in the language of Racine not of Shakespeare (at least language breaks down and sub-titles are required). To have the heir to the throne speaking in what can truly be called the lingua franca is a modest triumph for internationalism.

According to the survey, a healthy proportion of British schoolchildren is in fact taught French. Yet they emerge after four or more years with only a perfunctory knowledge of the language. This may be enough to cope with a grammar. This may be enough to read day trip to Boulogne and, just possibly, to read a popular French newspaper. But their proficiency is inadequate for business or even a simple conversation. Although schools would

regard the mention as sacrilege, the private sector reckons to give students a working knowledge of a language in a matter of weeks. One advertisement in *The Times* offers a guarantee of fluency in three and a half weeks. Businessmen can learn French, when they need to, by means of intensive language teaching, rooted in the principle of total immersion.

One of the points made in the survey is that not enough teaching is carried out in the relevant foreign language, largely because too few teachers speak it fluently. The requirement must be for more language laboratories in which children hear the language they are learning.

The surest way to learn languages, however, is to live in the relevant country, among those who speak it daily. British children go to France and elsewhere on school visits - and no doubt derive some benefit from the experience. But much of the time is taken up by sight-seeing, which they do in the company of their teacher and their classmates - giggling as they ascend the Eiffel Tower or troop through the Louvre towards the Mona Lisa.

To learn the language they need to go alone and live with a French family, preferably one which speaks little or no English. This implies a greater reliance on exchange visits, arranged and supervised by school authorities. Such schemes are probably the most cost-effective way of teaching modern languages to the British. They might also correct the impression abroad of all young Britons as screaming football hooligans. At worst, the hooligans might be taught to scream in the local tongue.

Enforcing maintenance payments

From Mr Stuart Hathaway

Sir, As a solicitor frequently involved with divorce cases, I agree with your suggestion that maintenance payments be collected through the tax system (leading article, June 20). However I would take issue with your comment that "many divorced fathers have apparently persuaded themselves that divorce ends not only their relationship with the mother of their children, but all their duties to the children themselves".

That has not been my experience. Relatively few fathers have ever expressed to me an unwillingness to support their children, although many ex-husbands have seen no reason why they should support their ex-wives. Of the few who have said they have been "illegitimate fathers" who have denied paternity (rightly or wrongly).

I have commonly found three reasons why maintenance for children is unpaid. First, fathers often remarry and take on an obligation to support a second wife and children, some of whom are born of this relationship but many of whom come with the wife ready-made, as it were (I gather that on average ex-wives marry within 37 months of divorce); in these cases they rather naturally consider that they must give first place to the family with which they live if there is, as usual, insufficient money to support all equally, bearing in mind that the second wife is debarré from claiming state support unless she in her turn leaves the man.

Second, it is estimated that one third of all divorced fathers lose contact with their children within two years of divorce, some because they, or the children, find the process of periodic access too painful to handle, some because they find the practicalities of access if the ex-wife has moved away, for example, too difficult, some because access is actively discouraged or denied. In these cases ex-wives are often content not to pursue maintenance from someone who has gone out of their lives and of whom they do not care to be reminded.

Third, unless the ex-husband's maintenance payments or the ex-wife's earnings take the ex-wife out of the social security system altogether, the effect of the present legislation is to ensure that maintenance payments do not benefit the ex-wife and children at all. Under the rules the ex-wife in receipt of income support can earn up to £15 per week before her benefit is affected but uncared

income, including maintenance, reduces the benefits payable pound for pound.

It is a rare ex-wife who sees any benefit in pursuing increases in or arrears of maintenance so that it can be paid back to the Government. If Mr Patten (report, June 20) really wants to do something for children he should amend the legislation to disregard maintenance payments in assessing income support and family credit.

Yours sincerely,
STUART HATHAWAY,
David Hodson & Co (Solicitors),
Winsmore House,
7 Oak Street,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire,
June 21.

From Mr J. P. Fisher
Sir, John Patten's proposals for automatically enforced maintenance payments fail to take account of the man who dutifully provides maintenance while his erstwhile wife obstructs all contact between child and father. The apparent inability of courts to enforce access orders suggests that the one remaining recourse available to a father is to withhold payments. If this is to be denied the balance should be redressed to ensure that access can be assured.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. FISHER,
150 Gravel Lane,
Widmore, Cheshire,
June 20.

From Mr Dominic Moseley
Sir, In the discussion of enforcement of maintenance orders against former husbands, a fundamental question is overlooked: why does Britain have such a high divorce rate? We now head the EC table, with a divorce rate well above the EC average.

It does not appear to stem from popular distaste for marriage; the incidence of marriage (and of course remarriage) remains high, and surveys show the vast majority of people believe more should be done to safeguard marriage.

The reason surely lies in the approach of governments to the family. In three successive pieces of legislation, beginning with the Divorce Reform Act 1969, obtaining a divorce has become progressively easier. The restrictions in terms of grounds and duration of marriage are now so minimal that divorce is seen as the easiest solution to matrimonial difficulties.

Yours faithfully,
DOMINIC MOSELEY,
26 Coway Mansions,
Coway Street, NW1,
June 20.

A discordant note

From Sir Yehudi Menuhin, OM

Sir, Despite the doubtless good intentions behind the proposition to merge the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music (report, June 20) neither of these great institutions can be compared with businesses, where mergers, takeovers, cartels, etc. seem to be the order of the day. In cultural matters cost-effectiveness is not realistic. At the time when two musical institutions are pursuing vigorously the highest standards of music training in their history it is hardly the moment to urge an amalgamation.

Why the subjection of a century or more of individual approaches to as elusive a task as the teaching of music should be considered to be enhanced by the creation of one jumbo college - not to speak of such widely-separated sites - is for me, as a musician, difficult to discern.

Yours faithfully,
YEHUDI MENUHIN,
4 & 5 Primrose Mews,
Regent's Park Road, NW1,
June 25.

Art market

From Mr Roy Miles

Sir, As a great nation we do not have a museum solely for British art. The Tate Gallery houses American and other paintings from abroad when it should be, say, only for Hogarth to Hockney.

Billinggate fish market has been marvellously restored and stands empty. It would be ideal for London's first museum of modern art.

Yours sincerely,
ROY MILES,
Roy Miles Gallery,
29 Bruton Street, W1,
June 25.

Herstmonceux future

From Mr Stephen Phillips

Sir, Apart from being a scandalous waste of taxpayers' money, bothing the sale in the first place, there has still been no proper study of the suitable future use of Herstmonceux Castle (report, June 12). Is it really the case that we can no longer afford to maintain our heritage, even when a grade-one listed building is already in government hands?

The Secretary of State for the Environment should hold an inquiry into the future of the castle forthwith.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN PHILLIPS,
Lime House,
Herstmonceux, East Sussex,
June 15.

Bailing out USSR

From Miss Nora Beloff

Sir, Yes, it would indeed be ridiculous to grant tens of billions of dollars to help a potentially rich country like the USSR to extricate

Forest horseriders

From Mr Derek Balls

Sir, I feel that I must reply on behalf of the Conservators of Epping Forest to Mrs Graham's letter (June 15) regarding horseriding in the forest.

The Conservators' proposals have been developed following full consultation. They have a very wide measure of local support from amenity, recreational and conservation organisations, and are backed by the Nature Conservancy Council. There is no question whatever of the public losing any rights in Epping Forest or of horseriders being required to pay for the upkeep of forest routes used by maintenance vehicles, as Mrs Graham contends.

What the Conservators do propose is a registration scheme, so that those horseriders who damage the forest - a site of special scientific interest - by not keeping to the horserider or abiding by other forest bylaws can be more easily traced, together with a modest contribution by horseriders to the cost of the facilities which the Conservators provide for them. These costs are very substantial and are rising as the popularity of recreational horseriding in the forest increases.

The contentions of Mrs Graham and her associates were considered in detail by select committees in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords and both rejected them. I am sorry that Mrs Graham should put them forward again as though they had not already received that adjudication.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK BALLS (Chairman),
Epping Forest and Open Spaces Committee,
Corporation of London
(Conservators of Epping Forest),
Members' Room,
Guildhall, EC2,
June 18.

itself from a mess of its own making (leading article, June 22). What you should perhaps have added is that, as in Brezhnev's time, one reason for the economic collapse is the overriding priority still given to the armed forces.

Members of the Defence Committee of the Supreme Soviet are protesting that the High Command still refuse to report truthfully on the cost of the sophisticated weaponry which, despite the talk about "New Thinking", they go on producing. The well-known deputy, Mr George Arbatov, recently claimed that Moscow will be spending as much on its three new aircraft carriers as on the whole of its national health service.

The Germans may feel that they have to pay a price to induce the Russian army to leave, but why on earth should the French and British taxpayer finance this highly militarised society?

Sincerely,
NORA BELOFF,
11 Belsize Road, NW6,
June 23.

Defence of costs at Sizewell B

From the Secretary of State for Energy

Sir, I was most disappointed to read your leading article (June 26) calling for the Sizewell B nuclear power station to be cancelled. Even though I told Parliament yesterday afternoon that Nuclear Electric would be announcing the results of their review today, you appear to have rushed into print on the basis of Friends of the Earth's assertions, derived from selective extracts of a leaked document from Nuclear Electric. Not surprisingly, this led you to make a number of errors and to fail to recognise why the costs have risen.

The project is not out of control. It is ahead of time and well managed. The costs have increased because of the Government's decision to postpone the three pressurised water reactors (PWRs) beyond Sizewell B. Costs which were to be shared over four stations had to fall on Sizewell B. Nuclear Electric also now needs to make a prudent allowance for the greater risks of delay or contractual disputes associated with a one-off project. None of the cost increase would have been necessary but for the Government's decisions.

You are entirely wrong to suggest that nobody has looked at the cost of decommissioning the station after the end of its life. The CEBG, and now Nuclear Electric, have carried out full assessments of these costs and their conclusions agree with those of utilities elsewhere.

It is easier and cheaper to decommission a PWR than one of the UK's existing reactors. The cost is estimated at some £250 million per reactor or under 0.1p per unit of electricity generated. This cost is included in Nuclear Electric's and my department's calculations of the cost of electricity from the station. You are therefore totally wrong to suggest that we are inflicting an unacceptable burden on future generations.

I carry no brief to defend nuclear power at any cost; my statement on nuclear power last autumn bears witness to that. I

also applauded the new structure for the electricity industry which my predecessor, Cecil Parkinson, devised because it makes the costs of nuclear power wholly transparent to the public.

I recognised last autumn that the decisions would have an impact on Sizewell B. That is why I immediately asked Nuclear Electric to undertake a thorough review of the costs and the timetable, as I was determined to discover whether Sizewell B was still a worthwhile public investment. My department has undertaken a full analysis of the economics against a range of assumptions and in comparison with alternative means of producing power. I have published the conclusions today in a letter to the energy select committee.

In any such analysis, as John Kay and Evan Davis argue in your paper today ("When a white elephant should die"), the costs incurred so far should be treated as sunk, and the economics assessed on the truly avoidable cost. On that basis, the cost of power from Sizewell B is above that from a new gas-fired station, but only marginally so, and is well below that from a new coal-fired station. I am therefore satisfied that Sizewell B holds its own.

But economics are not the only consideration. We must not forget that nuclear power can make a major contribution to reducing the emission of greenhouse gases and to diversity of supply. The cancellation of Sizewell B would make it much more difficult to embark on a new nuclear programme. We should in practice no longer be able to depend on nuclear power to help solve these problems.

I cannot believe that it would be anything but foolish to undermine the option of developing economic nuclear power by cancelling Sizewell B whilst the uncertainties about the greenhouse effect and future fossil prices remain so great.

Yours etc,
JOHN WAKEHAM,
Department of Energy,
1 Palace Street, SW1,
June 26.

Open mind on Aids

From Mr Etsuro Totsuka

Sir, Parallels can be drawn between the current debate about whether HIV is the cause of Aids and whether or not Aids is infectious on the one hand and my own experience fighting a battle to prove toxicity when a viral cause was being attributed to Smou (sub-acute myelo-optico-neuropathy), a neurological condition affecting well over 10,000 victims around the world.

Smou was discovered by Japanese physicians in the 1960s. It caused paralysis, blindness and many deaths. A virus, the Isoue Smou virus, named after the doctor who discovered it, was claimed to be the cause and this was taken up vigorously by the Japanese media. A panic followed. Many people fearing they were in the grip of a new infectious disease committed suicide.

But, unlike the current Aids situation, the Japanese Government did not allow a large

industry manufacturing test kits to grow up around what was no more than a hypothesis. Instead, the Government set up a vast research team involving leading scientists from many different disciplines and points of view.

It was eventually discovered that a medicine prescribed for diarrhoea was responsible for the damage to the nervous system. I was a member of a team of lawyers in the 1970s who represented more than 900 victims. It took 10 years to settle the cases because the pharmaceutical companies involved strongly claimed that a virus was the cause of the damage.

Those who today oppose the raising of doubt about the current consensus on the viral-Aids hypothesis should be made aware of their responsibility to keep the debate open and allow a greater voice to minority views in science.

Yours truly,
ETSURO TOTSUKA,
(Academic visitor, Institute of Psychiatry),
31a Bardolph Road, N7.

Blood transfusions

From the national director of the National Blood Transfusion Service

Sir, In Wendy Cooper's article, "Banking your own blood" (June 18), arguments are presented for autologous blood transfusions. It is noticeable that the potential hazards of pre-deposit autologous transfusion are only obliquely referred to, namely the risks to which such patients are exposed and the need for secure systems to ensure that the patients receive their own blood. One must have regard, however, for the concern which may be felt by the majority of patients who cannot take advantage of receiving their own blood.

The implication that Aids has compromised the role of the voluntary blood donor is not justified. The chance of developing any infection from a blood transfusion is very small indeed and the UK transfusion services are continually examining procedures which can even further improve the excellent safety of the blood supply.

Although some donors, largely due to misleading publicity, may have been concerned that they could develop Aids as a result of donating their blood, this fear has been largely overcome. Rather than a reduction in the number of blood donations, more were collected during the past year than ever before. Whilst rarely local shortages have resulted in the cancellation of planned surgical operations, this is not typical for the country as a whole.

Wine imports

From Mr C. B. Snowdon

Sir, Now that the RSE controversy regarding British beef exports has been possibly only temporarily resolved, could Mr Gummer, as no more than a precautionary measure, request that the Public Analyst determine and publish the levels of known carcinogens in French, German and Italian wines imported into this country.

Yours faithfully,
C. B. SNOWDON,
37 Lyndhurst Road,
Scholes,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071) 782 5046.

Tastes at odds

From Mr Robert Simmonds

Sir, Jonathan Meades said in his "Eating out" column (June 16): "I must admit here to an abhorrence of pubs. I'd be happy to see this ghastly British institution go the way of steam trains and church on Sundays."

As a regular pub man and a churchgoer with an admiration for steam trains I'd be glad to see the overpriced and undervalued restaurants go the way of the third-errand.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT SIMMONDS,
4 Cubbitts Close,
Dipswell,
Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

MEDIA



Hitting the high notes: (from left) Placido Domingo, Zubin Mehta, Luciano Pavarotti and José Carreras at rehearsals in Rome

Marketing the dream team

The concert sounds like classical music's marketing dream: three of the world's most adored tenors united on one stage in the heart of Rome on the eve of the World Cup final, singing, not just to the 6,000 people in front of them, but a worldwide satellite audience of about 800 million.

Promoters said it was impossible — they said Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and José Carreras would never get together. But as one observer noted, this was one occasion when it would be impossible to keep them apart. "They are united in their love for opera and their passion for football." All three tenors are donating their fees to charity.

Barring last-minute disasters, such as tenoritis and rain, the dream will come true on July 7 in the Baths of Caracalla. The tickets have long been sold — there were 192,000 applications for the 6,000 seats — and the opportunities for compact disc, tape, record and video sales are immense.

Against strong competition, the recording contract was won by Decca, which already has an exclusive contract with Pavarotti. But it was still a brave move for Decca, because it has also assumed almost complete control of the complex television, video and sound recording operation. Never before has a classical company taken such a risk.

The dream could turn into a nightmare before a note has been sung. One of the first problems arose

Planning is well advanced for the ultimate classical concert, Nicolas Soames reports

on the other side of the Atlantic. The programme will be broadcast live by ABC Television and, according to Herbert Chappell, head of Decca's audio-visual department and overall producer of the project, the Americans wanted to introduce an element of competition.

"The suggestion was that the three tenors would each sing 'Nessun dorma' — the BBC's World Cup anthem — and an international panel of judges would give their scores as in Olympic gymnastics — 9.5, 9.75, and so on," Mr Chappell said. "Well, we threw that one out of the window pretty damn quick." Then the Italians suggested that Franco Zeffirelli be brought in to direct the filming. "And we are still fighting off bids from other companies who go round waving chequebooks adding extra noughts willy-nilly to a row of figures," Mr Chappell said.

This concert highlights many of the problems that confront multi-media worldwide events, which are becoming increasingly common, even in classical music. The problems start with the music. Agreement was reached in principle that each tenor would sing a couple of operatic arias and a song from his own country (Pavarotti will sing "Sorrento" and, yes, "Nessun dorma"); and they

would get together in a 20-minute medley, arranged by the film composer Lalo Schiffrin, of songs including "Maria", "Memories", "La Vie en rose" and "O Sole Mio". But new ideas crop up all the time, and changes could even take place on the day.

The medley involves a large orchestra conducted by Zubin Mehta (ten horns, eight trombones, six clarinets, six flutes, six oboes, four harps, percussion and "about a million strings"), according to Mr Chappell. Insurance has been taken out against rain and other natural and man-made disasters (the event has cost about £5 million so far).

Then there are the production problems. There will be ten cameras, directed by Brian Lange. Both Mr Lange and Mr Chappell were convinced that a pop-type visual approach was inappropriate, because the package involved video as well as television. "We have to make sure it is going to look good in ten years' time, and nothing does a film faster than the latest gimmicky wipe or slide," Mr Chappell said. "We want it to look elegant and stand the test of time."

As much preparation as possible is done before the day. "Camera shots for every single quaver are prepared in advance: it is scripted to within an

inch of its life," Mr Chappell said. "We cannot shoot it like a football match, just keeping the ball in shot. But if we are offered something unusual we can take it."

This is the first time that a classical company has had such control over a world event. Carreras' manager, Mario Drudi, who originated the idea, is organising the concert and RAI, the Italian state broadcasting company, is handling the satellite links. Other than that, it is Decca's show.

Even as the audience wanders away from the Baths of Caracalla, the recording team will begin preparing the result for release on all formats. Editors will tighten up the film — shortening applause, excising coughs, perhaps changing some shots — for the video. Similar work will be done on the soundtrack for the CD, tape and record, and the finished product have been ready for the shops within three weeks.

However, as the concert is taking place at the height of the holiday season, the decision has been taken to hold the launch until September 1. Even then, this is fast work by classical standards.

Decca hopes for a big hit. "If we don't sell 500,000 copies of the album by November, we will be extremely disappointed," a spokesman said.

Mr Chappell added: "It is a very special occasion, and we have done as much as we can to prevent disaster. But if it rains, we will have to be satisfied with collecting the insurance."

Fighting for fun

Are American expertise and money needed to run a theme park?

WHEN, 75 years ago, Carl Laemmle, a German immigrant and cinema owner, built Universal City on a 230 acre lot in north Hollywood, the largest film studio in the world, he noticed how native Californians would hang around, and crane their necks to watch the filming. He decided to charge them 25 cents a head to come inside.

So began the first Universal Tour, the prototype for the £2.5 billion film studio complex and theme park that Universal's current owner, the Music Corporation of America (MCA), wants to build with its British partner, the Rank Organisation, on Rainham marshes in Essex.

If MCA and Rank play their cards right, their Hollywood-on-Thames will serve as the point of entry for American producers and the stimulus for British moviemakers wanting to compete in the deregulated, post-1992 European market.

But two problems have arisen. One has been posed by conservationists, who prefer the existing flora and fauna on Rainham marshes to imported movie species such as the shark from *Jaws*. The other is the French government, which has offered £250 million in incentives to build the European Universal studios near Paris.

Some observers have suggested that the British government's decision ruling out aid

chequered history in Britain. The local market leader is the Pearson Group, publisher of the *Financial Times* and part owner of British Satellite Broadcasting. Pearson runs Alton Towers, which it bought last March for £60 million, and Chessington World of Adventures.

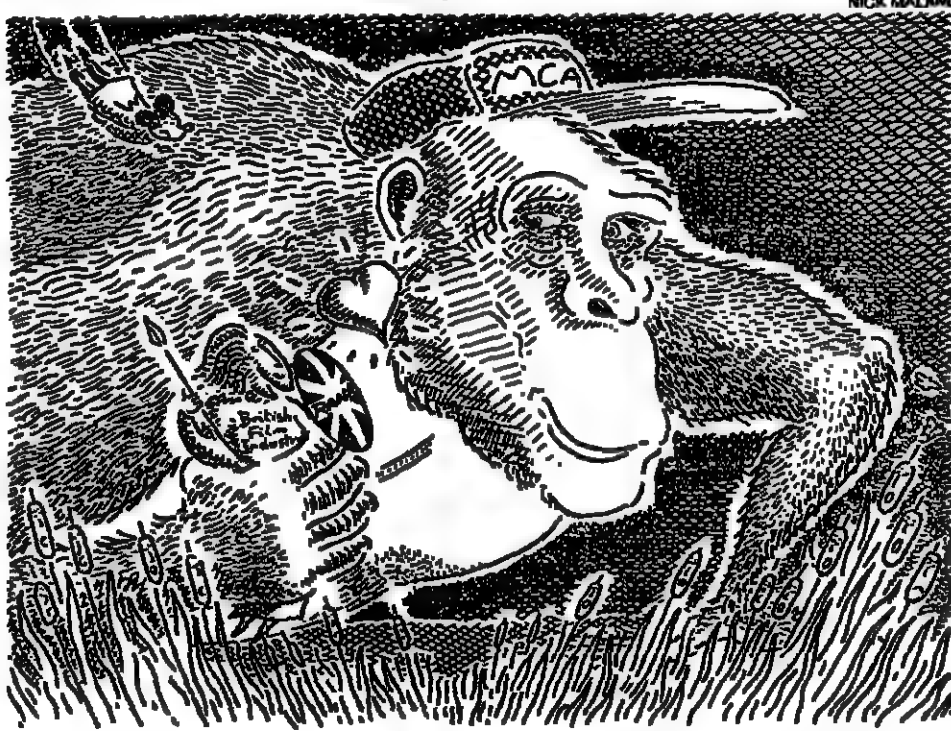
Other operators are Granada, which owns a couple of small theme parks and runs a studio tour, and Brent Walker, which has a management contract for Wondersworld, a project that has been mooted for some years on the site of an old steel plant at Corby in Northamptonshire.

Few British companies have the resources and expertise to run theme parks (a modern "whitewater ride" can cost more than £3 million to build). "It is a fashion market. To retain excitement, you have to stay at the forefront of fashion," Mr Slater says. That means regular, expensive changes in attractions. Disney can call on extensive cross-media promotion, such as books and magazines, and has also been considering a merger with the CBS network of America. Only a couple of British entertainment companies can compete in this league, and they have not had the experience of looking after tens of thousands of customers each day on an enclosed site.

Now attention has turned to Europe. MCA wants to get its European arm making films before Disneyland does the same at its own new site outside Paris. Disneyland Europe is due for completion in stages between 1992 and 2011, but its studios are planned for 1995.

Theme parks have had a

ANDREW LYCETT
NICK MALLARD



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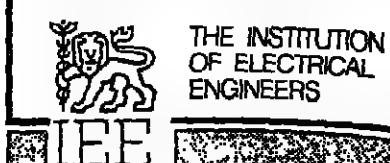
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Continued on page 32

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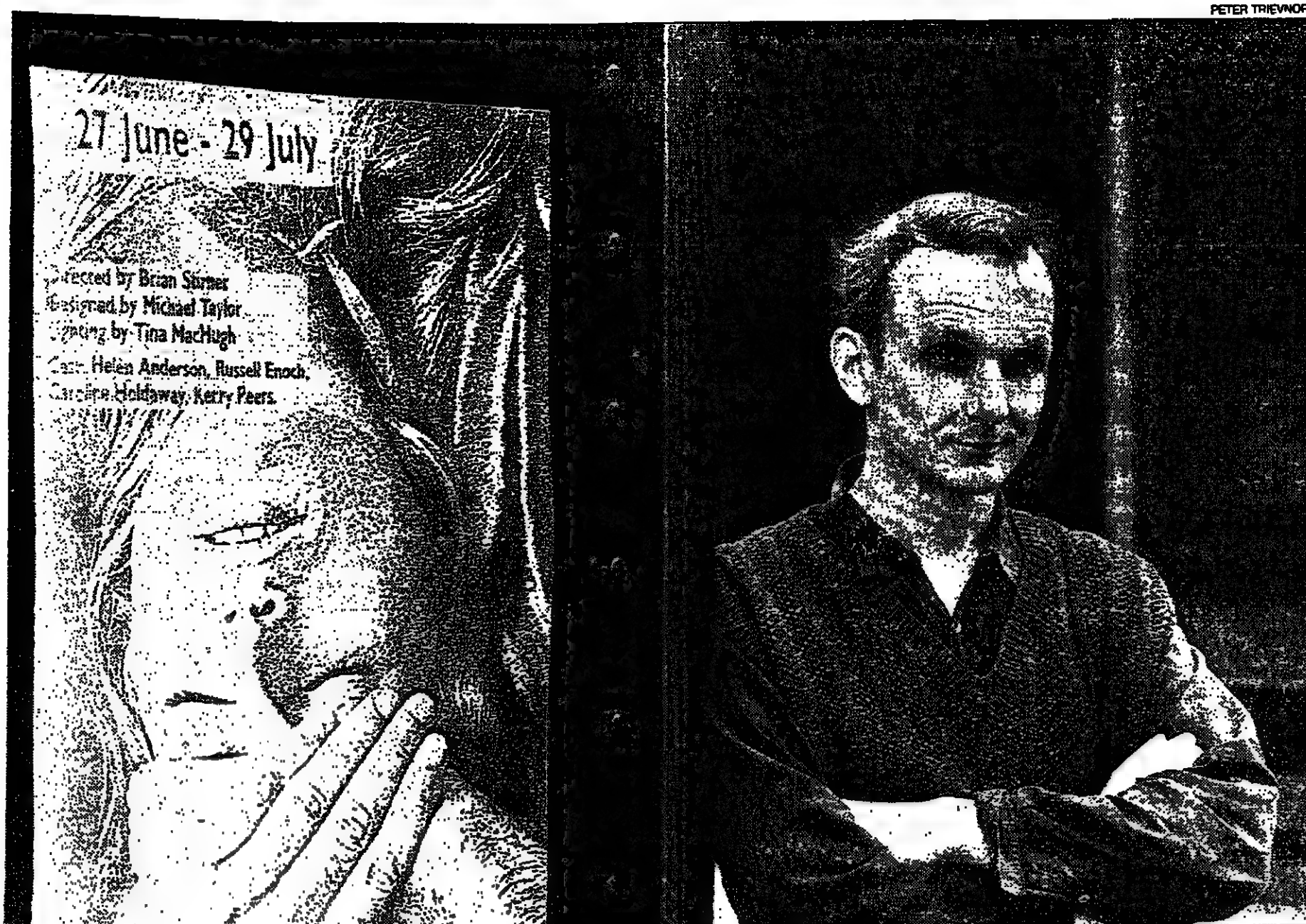
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PETER TRIVINOR

Gallic charmer from New York

The journalist who will interview the Prince of Wales for a top-rated French television show is a celebrity in her own right

When Anne Sinclair first contacted the British embassy in Paris about the prospects of interviewing the Prince of Wales, she sent along a few video recordings of recent encounters with guests on her Sunday evening programme, *Sept sur Sept*. François Mitterrand, Jacques Chirac, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, Sir Yehudi Menuhin: an impressive enough quartet, impressively handled by Miss Sinclair with her deceptively low-key approach, the half-smile that accompanies most questions never obscuring the intelligence and hard background work that goes into each 60-minute show.

As our men at the embassy are well aware, Miss Sinclair is a considerable star of French television, however much she dislikes the word, preferring to be known simply as a good working journalist. Ratings for *Sept sur Sept*, in the prime-time slot of 7pm, are consistently much higher than those of competing current affairs programmes, a success reflected in the haul of awards Miss Sinclair has collected over the past five years.

What is more, the French public, which can be very fickle where "celebrities" are concerned, clearly warms to this good-looking woman in her early forties, who invariably appears on screen in a fuzzy but fashionable pullover. It has chosen her as its Woman of the Year and put her in the top ten of French Men and Women Who Count; the mayors of France even nominated her as the representation of Marianne, the nation incarnate, in a line that includes Brigitte Bardot and Catherine Deneuve.

Born in New York, where her Jewish parents had moved to be safe from the Nazis, Miss Sinclair returned to France at the age of three: she has degrees in law and political science, and 15 years in French television. She often singles out the former prime minister, Pierre Mendès-France, whom she knew well and revered, as a crucial influence on her decision to take up journalism in order "to see and to understand, to be the link between the citizen and the event".

Quite early in her career, married to a French radio broadcaster, Miss Sinclair turned down the tempting chance to present an evening news programme so she could spend more time with their two small boys. Today, she still shops at the local supermarket, drives her children around and tries to live as normal a life as fame permits, observing wryly that "I didn't have to choose a public profession".

The *Sept sur Sept* formula requires Miss Sinclair to question her single guest on the events of the past week, using television reports to spark off discussions. Miss Sinclair, who chooses every guest herself, bristles at suggestions that she is too soft, especially with politicians.

"People say that, but they also say I am very critical," she once observed in a magazine. "I don't think I do overly syrupy journal-

ism." As she sees it, an artist, musician or singer, more accustomed to talking about his or her work, is taking a considerable risk in plunging into discussions of international events. "I consider I'm obliged to be a little warmer with them, more welcoming than with a politician, with whom hard questions should not be avoided."

She regards the numerous angry phone calls from ministers in governments of the left and the right as *Sept sur Sept*'s campaign medals, reminders of television's progress from the bad old days when the ministry of information's censorship was meekly accepted. On the wider fringes of the French right, Miss Sinclair has regularly been assailed, in the most vile terms, for being Jewish, part of the media conspiracy often



Anne Sinclair: low-key

denounced by Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front party.

To the delight of her admirers, Miss Sinclair finally took a particularly racist journal to court, winning damages that she immediately donated to France's main anti-racist organisation ("I would never touch a centime from those people"). For her, the ugly growth of anti-Semitism and racism in France today is shameful and increasingly dangerous, to be resisted by all decent people.

The idea for the interview with the Prince, Miss Sinclair said this week, came after reading remarks of his that struck her as both intelligent and what the French call *sympa* - likeable, attractive. She accepts that some areas are clearly off-limits, notably domestic politics. "We won't be talking about Mrs Thatcher and the poll tax."

What Miss Sinclair does hope for, though Buckingham Palace may not be with her all the way, is a free-ranging discussion of world issues, from the environment and Aids to the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe. To this, the Prince may rest assured, she will bring a keen and well-briefed mind, plus the ability to cut through waffle with the occasional well-timed thrust.

PHILIP JACOBSON

Faith, hope and the healers

As the BMA is urged to look more closely at alternative medicine, Liz Gill reports on a revealing insight into the healers

In the quest for a cure for the myalgic encephalomyelitis that has blighted her life for nine years, Megan Lloyd has visited five different healers: two of them good, two indifferent and one distinctly unpleasant.

Today, although her muscle pains and extreme lassitude remain as debilitating as ever, she is not without hope. "I can't say I am physically any better, but I am much more at ease mentally. I don't think I am going to be helped until they find a new drug. Until then, seeing the healer I am working with now may be the only thing that can make me feel happier."

Mrs Lloyd will not be well enough to attend the London opening tonight of a play by her husband, Peter, on the subject. *The Touch*, which has been commissioned by the Bush Theatre, explores the impact of a visiting healer named Vincent on the lives of three women in a small Welsh border town. The opening coincides with the British Medical Association's annual representative meeting at which it was accused of having a "knee jerk" reaction to alternative medicine.

On paper, Vincent seems a thoroughly obnoxious character who manipulates the weakness of others for his sexual and material gain. On stage, fleshed out by actor Russell Enoch, Mr Lloyd hopes he will be more sympathetic.

"He is not a charlatan. I think he has these powers but he

misuses them. I am particularly interested in the ambiguities of these situations. I have spoken to a lot of people who believe things have happened to them. They describe sensations of heat or something like electricity when a healer lays on hands. Or they say they have seen landscapes and kaleidoscopic colours. They felt very energised afterwards.

"I know people feel they have been cured. Did the healer cure them, or would they have got better anyway?"

Mr Lloyd is also fascinated by our apparent need to imbue healers with other qualities, sometimes making them cult leaders. "I am not cynical about healing. I have no doubt that some men and women have these abilities, although that does not necessarily mean they are good people. Most are completely above board but others allow themselves to be corrupted. There is no reason why you should be a special person, a spiritual guru because you have this ability. Vincent is just an ordinary working-class man. Yet there is something in us that expects or needs a healer to have other virtues - and some of them trade on that."

His wife encountered the phenomenon. "I met one man who was using a group of women

both emotionally and sexually. They seemed almost to worship him," she says.

"I could see myself being drawn into this and I didn't want to have anything to do with it. I can understand, though, how it happens. You are at such a low ebb it is easy to take advantage. Yet this man definitely had strong powers. When he put his hands on me I felt a sensation like electricity. He had a gift, but he was playing with people's lives. It seems particularly to happen with women. Women go more, believe more. Men are more cynical."

Her husband does not believe women are more gullible. He says he simply wanted to write a play with good parts for three actresses, but adds: "It seems to be those who are made to feel marginal or dispossessed by society who are the most likely followers of cult leaders."

There are 17 bodies in the Confederation of Healing Organisations and they must abide by a detailed code of conduct worked out with and approved by the main medical institutions, including the royal colleges. "This is the public's safeguard," the administrator, Chris Thomson, says. "It is extremely explicit about behaviour. For instance there must be no removal of clothes for healing."

Most healer work unpaid, though some may accept small donations. "If someone is concerned, they should contact the individual organisation. Each has its own complaints procedures, and can kick a member out."

Mr Thomson estimates that there are about 8,000 registered healers in the United Kingdom. The largest member organisation is the National Federation of Spiritual Healers, which has 4,500 members, 3,000 of whom are full registered members. The remainder are probationary or associate members.

Certificates of registration must be updated annually. Complaints are investigated by the governing body and the ultimate sanction is expulsion. "No-one has ever been struck off though," the administrator, Don Copland, says. "We have had two resignations in 12 years."

In a Mori poll of attitudes to unorthodox treatments conducted for *The Times* last year, 12 per cent of those surveyed said they would "seriously consider" visiting a faith or spiritual healer. Five per cent of the sample of 1,826 people had been to a healer and almost half of those who had visited a healer said they were very satisfied with the results. Mr Lloyd was not surprised to

see Bryan Robson, England's injured World Cup captain, calling in a healer last week. "You see all kinds of people in their waiting rooms," he says. Neither was he surprised that the healer was not effective. "It usually doesn't for a one-off, it takes a long time."

The Lloyds, both aged 39, live in Oswestry, in Shropshire, with their three-year-old daughter. They keep an open mind about the source of healing power. "Christian healers say it comes from God, others say they are merely the channel for some outside energy source. Another group believes we all have the potential," Mr Lloyd says.

His wife has tried other branches of alternative medicine, including acupuncture and herbalism. She intends to persist with her current healer.

Does she mind her husband using her experiences as source material? Not really, she says. Though she confesses to feeling pangs of jealousy about the fact that he can work at all: her illness forced her to abandon her job as a potter.

"I don't want people thinking these things actually happened to me because I was only the starting point. But I hope it will be some use. When you go in for something like this where you are entrusting your health to a stranger it really is a very big step."

● *The Touch*, Bush Theatre, Hammersmith, until July 29, Tuesday to Sunday, 8pm.

& BRIEFLY


Katz cradle

DENISE KATZ, who claims to have organised the lives of Jeffrey Archer, Sue Arnold, Maureen Lipman and Lady Porter, has published the secrets of her success in a book called *How to make life easy for yourself* (Angus & Robertson, £3.50). Miss Lipman wrote the glowing introduction and says she sought out Ms Katz after learning of her "creative" organisation of Fenella Fielding's wardrobe, adding: "I know Fenella... I have seen her getting made up, and if the inside of her wardrobe was anything remotely akin to the inside of her make-up bag, I could only assume that Ms Katz had an exploratory daring which made Dame Freya Stark look insular." The paperback, neatly organised into sections on home, clothes, work, finance and so on, offers hundreds of helpful hints. But the truly disorganised might still need Ms Katz on hand to help find it under the pile of other unused self-help manuals.

Idyll thoughts

CONSIDERING a move to the country? Read first Nigel Colborn's *Family Piles* (Cassell, £10.95), which advises would-be country dwellers on choosing a locality. Sample verdicts: "Yorkshire - too cold. People too blunt - well, let's face it, bloody rude... Lancashire - too urban. Too wet... Lakelandshire - fit only for romantic poets. Crowded in summer, iccap in winter. Sellafeld... Wales - language problems. Poor train service. Too many disaffected miners. Good for musical types, Labour MPs."

VICTORIA MAKEE



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TELEVISION

Revisiting haunted islands

THE story of the wartime German occupation of the Channel Islands has usually been told in the most simplistic terms of us-versus-them heroism. So what proved most intriguing about *Swastika Over British Soil*, Peter Barry's 50th anniversary documentary for Channel 4 last night, was its investigation of the moral dilemma that has never been satisfactorily resolved and therefore still divides a small island's community.

At what point did sensible co-operation, as suggested by Churchill, become traitorous collaboration? Should the islands' government have resigned rather than remain in power to counter-sign Nazi orders deporting Jews to Germany? Was it right that those who had undoubtedly profited from the occupation should have been allowed at the war's end to convert those profits back into British currency?

Batty took some surviving German occupiers back to the islands, where they talked about the friendliness of the natives, how they had even seen regret from the locals at their departure in 1945, and in general what a good posting the Channel Islands were for soldiers who could equally have ended up on the Russian front.

Among the islanders, however, the bitterness lives on, especially about the way the British government, at the end of 1945, seemed too eager to let bygones be bygones and failed to stage full investigations into the possibility of collaborationist crimes.

The fascination of all this, half a century on, lies in the fact that it could have happened on the mainland: would a village in Kent or Cornwall have behaved so very differently?

Every small community has its tensions, and the occupation often served to heighten local feuds: families returned from deportation, or merely a trip to the docks, to find that their homes had been looted not by Germans but by the friends and neighbours who had bidden them a tearful farewell only a few hours or weeks earlier.

The way we like to remember the invasion of the Channel Islands may well be the theatrical image of the late Celia Johnson in William Douglas-Home's play about the plucky Dame of Sark, demanding that German occupiers of her fiefdom at least wipe their jackboots before entering her kitchen. But the truth was vastly more complex and uneasy.

Some of the eyewitnesses seemed to have stepped straight out of a *Beyond the Fringe* parody of wartime heroism: "I said to my wife, 'The Germans are coming this afternoon, so we are going to the pictures.'" But, as schools and shops reopened, girls fraternised with Nazi officers and a kind of passive resistance was established.

Batty commendably avoided too much wisdom of hindsight, never even attempting to consider contemporary evidence about hostages falling in love with their captors. He relied instead on what little archive footage there is, and the almost random recollections of survivors.

One woman noted only in passing that she had been sexually abused by German soldiers at the age of 10, while a man replied to suggestions of cowardice among the islanders by calmly pointing out that if resistance fighters blew up a bridge in France, they could be 50 miles away within the hour. In Jersey they had nowhere to hide except the sea.

No one now really wants to think too hard about how he or she might behave under an occupation. When in 1947 Noel Coward, author of such highly patriotic scripts as *Cavalcade* and *In Which We Serve*, wrote a play called *Peace In Our Time* which wondered if Londoners would have collaborated, he was attacked not on the merits of the play but for having dared to ask so unpleasant a question.

The treachery issue is still very potent. Even now in Jersey, you have only to ask the wrong question of the wrong guest at a dinner party to realise that, more powerfully than the landmines planted by the Germans in 1944, those moral doubts lie under the surface of the island society.

They still divide streets, communities and even families according to how people behaved, not just in the first despair of invasion nor in the euphoria of liberation, but in the five long intervening years when survival was the only real issue. It was all a long way from *Bergerac*.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

GALLERIES

Bringing the party to the artist

Cheap advertising, expensive fun or a waste of time? Paul Golding questions the value of private views at leading art galleries

Private views have nothing to do with serious viewing and still less to do with privacy. The business of selling pictures at these elaborate and, in some cases, almost shockingly costly events, appears to figure only as a minor, slightly vulgar, consideration. Big spenders are known to be received in almost sacramental secrecy and, more often than not, prior to the launch of an exhibition.

Why, one asks, do dealers persist in hosting arty bashes where, for the privilege of a glass of champagne (served, if you are really lucky, by model-boys in white gloves and red ties) you must endure deafening squeals from the lowlife sorority and incessant belly-shoves from the cigar-mashing financial sector? And, just as intriguing, why is the public so eager to flock to such functions?

Russian art connoisseur Roy Miles is exuberant both about the kudos and the purpose of his elaborate extravaganzas. He recites the names of his flashier guests (film stars, minor royalty, newspaper magnates) with relish. "Mine," he says, "are reckoned to be the parties I'm known for serving the best champagne, caviar flown in from Moscow, asparagus from Normandy, lobster tails..."

This might help explain why people are so voraciously keen on private views. But why should Roy Miles be? "It's not a selling exercise. It's an evening to come and see me, see who's having fun, mix with celebs."

And mix while you may, too, for Miles is toughening up on guests who have not "paid their club dues". As he informed a distraught *grande dame* at the Savoy the other day: "You've been drinking my best Dom Perignon for the last 15 years and never bought a picture. I'm afraid you're off the computer. But you can have lunch with me any Saturday."

Perhaps the most prolific private view host is the Albemarle Gallery, which has shown and toasted well over 100 artists in the three and a half years since its inception. "But people who want to buy are definitely put off by private views," admits Mark Glazebrook, ex-Colnaghi and one of the Albemarle's directors. "People who you know want a bit of time and space and really look at the pictures, you ask to come the previous day for lunch."

Therein lies the difference between the guest and the client. But what about the marauding gate-crasher? Does he or she not pose a problem?

"I think every gallery has a number of people," explains

Glazebrook, "whose social lives seem to revolve around private views. I have certainly thrown some of them out before now—people who start telephoning abroad, falling over, smashing glasses—but this is exceptional. Anyway, I prefer to err on the side of being welcoming. Private views are a service to the public and I don't grudge it."

A service to the public, or a service to the artist? Glynn Boyd Hare, one of the Albemarle's more florid staple exhibitors (ex-Francis Kyle Gallery and hilariously venomous about it), reflects: "I enjoy private views. Artists are rather affected if they pretend they don't. You're the centre of attention and, even if you do slightly have to be on best behaviour (I mean, you can't exactly go up to some strange lady and say 'Darling, you're far too ugly to own one of my paintings') it's a celebration, a launch. Any excuse for a party. It's the only reason I paint."

Fisher Fine Art, one of the longer-established Expressionist and Decorative Art galleries ("18 years old last week," says Jeffrey Solomons, who once slung out a trio of frisky art students and, for his pains, had the gallery assaulted by a couple of fire engines), regards private views as a means of spoiling its artists and their social coteries with drink but "not



Playing to the gallery: Roy Miles and art lovers Sibylla-Jane Flower and Rosemary Brown

food; it gets trodden into the carpet."

A further tip for rapacious launch-loungers: the Anthony d'Offay Gallery is known, "when the nature of the work on show is very, very delicate", to hold dry private views.

Whether private views are a means of illuminating a dealer's profile, or an artist's, or a guest's; whether they are a cheap means of advertising, an expensive waste of intelligent people's time, or "just a bit of fun", the final word on this peculiar socio-cultural phenomenon must go to the forthright and formidable art critic of the *Evening Standard*, Brian Sewell.

"I regard private views with absolute horror and contempt. They are designed for gallery groupies and for art critics without a permanent voice, who depend on the food and drink doled out on these occasions. I never, never, never go."

OPERA

The archer takes a bow

Hilary Finch reports on the Royal Opera's preparations for staging *William Tell*

At a time of deep financial deficit, the Royal Opera House is about to stage Rossini's *William Tell*, one of the longest, most obscure and potentially most expensive operas in the repertoire. Hubris, it might seem, has not a little to do with it. For his first new production as Covent Garden's director of productions, John Cox has taken on a work not heard at the house for 100 years. Moreover, it takes four-and-a-half hours and four well-stocked acts to tell the story of a single heroic deed of doubtful authenticity.

The last of Rossini's 38 operas, *William Tell* is hardly a *Falstaff* or a *Flute*. It was, for the normally fluent Rossini, a long and painstaking labour. Beethoven had warned him never to write anything but comic opera, and he responded with implacable mountains and an increasingly implacable body of gradually politicised people. Berlioz, in a cutting piece of understatement, described *Tell* as "conscientiously executed from beginning to end in accordance with the requirements

imposed upon all time by taste and good sense".

Did *Tell* really exist beyond the "Lone Ranger" gallop? Was there life beyond the shooting of the apple? The Royal Opera at one point began to doubt the wisdom of tackling an opera which required a bridge across a gorge in a house, a cast of hundreds, 6,000 buttons and 15 tenor high Cs. Then they listened once more to the sun rising after the storm in the opera's great finale. Democracy had triumphed over oppression: a nation had been born. Perhaps *Tell*'s hour had come at last.

John Cox was in Houston directing *Der Rosenkavalier* when murmurs of *Tell*'s withdrawal from Covent Garden coincided with reports coming in from the streets of Bucharest. History was on his side. He managed to persuade Jeremy Isaacs that *Tell* was the man of the moment.

Although almost a century's performing history focused on the Italian version of the opera, it is the original *Guillaume Tell* which Rossini wrote for Paris that is essential to Cox's concept. Not only does Covent Garden like to pride itself on a degree of authenticity (after all, Rossini had learnt French composition and theatre technique in order to set himself up with a lifetime's annuity from Paris). More important, the French version, with its characteristic choral and dance

divertissements, focuses sharply on the people as hero.

Cox feels that *divertissement* is something of a misnomer. "Far from holding things up, the great setpieces have a serious and continuing dramatic function. In each act there's a major ceremony: a marriage, an oath-taking, an act of homage, a celebration of liberty."

"The wedding in Act I is no mere distraction. It goes deep to the roots of what distinguishes the Cantons, under Habsburg rule, as a people. Creation is part of identity. But one of the things which might confound Mrs T is the fact that these people have to learn to think beyond the family into the community to find strength and freedom. *Tell* knows this at the beginning, and his task is to turn all the others round."

This led Cox to an explanation of the edition he is using. *Tell* defies any attempt to define a complete or authentic version. Michel Plasson, conducting, will use Elizabeth Bartlett's Ricordi score which was used for the 1988 EMI recording by Riccardo Muti, with its reinstatement of the famous Prayer and Trio, and its cuts based on Rossini's own revisions. Into this he will stitch some material from the original Troupenas auto-graph score.

Cox, for instance, has insisted on including passages of extra recitative, excised earlier for fear that they would be politically dangerous. When old Melchthal is exhorting the women to love their country and produce offspring, *Tell* leaps up and cries out: "Women! Ban them from your beds! A people enslaved is unable to produce great men!"

Cox believes that dance was, for the burgeoning Swiss, a statement of group awareness and solidarity. Kate Flin, who has explored the discipline of *t'ai chi* to create her memorable choreography for *Turandot* in 1984, has drawn on her own researches in Greece and Eastern Europe to create a trans-ethnic dance far removed from 19th-century French ballet.

The heavy costumes are equally multi-layered. Liz da Costa, who sees *Tell* very much as "the *Les Misérables* of the Swiss", has created working clothes in every sense of the word. Not only do the layers evoke a Walter Crane-like workforce of indefinite time and place, but the petticoats of old sheets, the intricately trimmed bedspread jackets, and the pelmets transformed into bodice panels are all modifiable from scene to scene.

Tell's talk of mobilising his people is further focused in the peasant Arnold, who also provides the opera's chief love interest. In falling disastrously in love with Mathilde, the Habsburg Austrian princess, Arnold is everything the one-dimensional, virtuous *Tell* is not. The Oklahoma-born tenor Chris Merritt has been the Arnold in five European productions of *Tell* in the last decade and he, too, is convinced of the supremacy of *Guillaume over Guglielmo*.

In the French opera of the day, the tenor was being raised to a place of prominence which hadn't yet been achieved in the Italian school. For the French, the tenor was the romantic lead: for the Italians, the mezzo-soprano trouser role still fulfilled this function. "Rossini found that the tenor was the *primo uomo* of the evening in Paris. His Arnold was, if you like, Rossini's first pure bel canto, heroic, romantic tenor. In him, he combined the two different worlds he had inhabited. This is the Manrico, the Radames, even the Rodolfo of the future."

William Tell opens at the Royal Opera House on Friday, with further performances on July 4, 7, 12, 16, 19. Tel: 071-240 1066

CRITICS' CHOICE: OPERA, DANCE AND PERFORMANCE ART

OPERA

LONDON

WILLIAM TELL: Welcome opportunity to see Rossini's final, epic-scale opera. Gregory Yonisch in the title-role. See feature, left. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, WC2 (071-240 1066), Fri, 8pm, £4-27.5.

IDOMENEO: The English Bach Festival's presentation is a rare chance to see Mozart's opera seria with 18th-century costumes and choreography. Best includes Rodger Williams and Valerie Masterson. Conducted by Antonio de Almeida. Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 458351), Fri, Tues, 7.15pm, £4-22.

OUTSIDE LONDON

TANNHAUSER: Brilliantly conceived production by Keith Warner for New Sussex Opera, with impressive performances from a cast led by Graham Matheson-Skuse and the NSO Orchestra under Lionel Friend. One of few outstanding Wagner productions. The Dome, Brighton (0273 674357), tonight and Sat, 7pm, £7.50-£21.

TORNARCA: John Metcalf's new opera (libretto by Michael Wilcock) sets the spiritual animal culture of the Inuit (Eskimos) against the rigid social conventions of Victorian Britain; powerfully staged by Mike Aspin. Welsh National Opera, Palace Theatre, Manchester (061-236 9822), tonight, 7.15pm, £5.50-£30.

THE MIKADO: John Wells's production for the D'Oyly Carte re-staged by Chris Webber. Also *Trial by Jury* in a double bill with HMS Pinafore. John Pryce-Jones conducts. Congress Theatre, Eastbourne (0323 412000), tonight and tomorrow (Mikado), Fri and Sat (Trial/Pinafore), 8pm, £5-£21.5.

THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER: The oppressive atmosphere of Poe's Gothic horror story at last meets its match in the obsessive patterns of Philip Glass's minimalism. Michael McCarthy's production for Music Theatre Wales. White Theatre, Bracknell (0344 484123), tomorrow-Sat, 8pm, £5-£23.

SALOME: André Engel's excellent production is a masterly understated study in eroticism. Cynthia Melris heads the cast; the conductor is John Mauceri. Playhouse, Edinburgh (031-557 2590), tomorrow, 7.15pm, £5-£17.50.

KAT'A KABANOVA: A first-rate cast (Nancy Gustafson in title role, Felicity Palmer and John Graham-Hall) and conductor (Andrew Davis) are a winning combination in Nikolais

Leinhoff's searing production. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111), tomorrow and Mon, 8.20pm, £30-£75.

ORLANDO PALADINO: British stage premiere of Haydn's opera given in the gardens of Garsington Manor by the Downshire Players of London. Garsington Manor, Oxford (0865 727855), Fri and Sat, 8.15pm, £20.

MASQUERADE: Opera North give the first professional staging in this country of Nielsen's comic opera of 1905. Sung in English by an admirable team of soloists. Elgar Howarth conducts. Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 458351), Fri, Tues, 7.15pm, £4-22.

PERFORMANCE ART

GARY STEVENS: *Animal*. Written and directed by Gary Stevens, this piece for young performers takes its inspiration from Stan Laurel. The characters play out their routines in a room of teddy bears. A sharp, brilliantly out piece presented as part of the British Art Show. Purcell Room, South Bank Centre, London SE1 (071-928 8800), tonight, 8pm, £5, £3.50.

ARCHAOS: *Bouliar*. Circus-skilled French performers known for reckless chainaw juggling. Supported by Chihuahua, a Paris-based band. The show includes operatic trapeze on an ex-Soviet Army crane, an exploding Jaguar, a Mini full of water and four performing fish in a London lard. An outrageous spectacle. Platt Fields, Manchester, (0831 220400 (220401), tonight until July 15, 8.30pm (except Mon), mats Sat, Sun, 3pm. Adult £5 (£3) children under 16 £4.

MADE IN LEICESTER: Performing Art Students from Leicester Polytechnic present performance art on Thursday and a mix of dance, new theatre and music. Phoenix Arts, 11 Newarke Street, Leicester (0533 554854), tonight-Fri.

FORKBEARD FANTASY: A *Serious* Leak. Machines, pipes, jets of steam form the set in this eco-conscious comic trick piece. Green Room, 54-56 Whitworth Street West, Manchester (061-236 1677), Fri, Sat, 8pm, £4.30.

LUMIERE & SON THEATRE COMPANY: *Taboo*. A comic investigation of taboo subjects described as "an expose of life's unwritten prohibitions". Wilkesden Green Library Centre, 95 High Road, London NW10 (081-451 0294), Sat, 8pm, £4.50.

FAST FOOD ZOO: 33pm. Physical theatre based multi-media piece. Five

performers who emerged from last year's National Review of Live Art. Prema Art Centre, Uley Dearsley, Gloucestershire (0453 860703), Sun, 6pm, free.

BLACK MIMM THEATRE: *Superheroes*. London premiere from this young group gaining recognition for its entertaining but thoughtful dealings with serious contemporary issues. This show uses voice and movement to create a "living cartoon". Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, London SW11 (071-223 2223), tonight-Sun, 8pm, £5 (£4).

GHISLAINE BODDINGTON

DANCE

KIROV BALLET: The rumbustious *Le Corsaire* sails tonight for the last time this season. In contrast, the romantic *Giselle* follows (tomorrow-Sat), then the London premiere of Oleg Vinogradov's *Petrushka* (Mon-Wed), inspired by the life and death of Sakharov; with two of Balanchine's ballets, *Theme & Variations* and *Scottish Symphony*. London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-436 3161), 7.30pm, £8.50-£55; Sat, mats, 2pm, £3.50-£4.5.

TRISHA BROWN: Post-modernist choreographer from New York presents her company's second programme with *Set and Reset*, *Line-up* and *Newark*. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234), today and Thurs, 7.30pm, £3.50-£10.50.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Last week of tour, featuring two popular comedies, *La Fille mal gardée* (tonight, Thurs) and *Hobson's Choice* (Fri, Sat). Enigma, Liverpool (051 709 1555), 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm, £3.50-£16.50.

LEEDS FESTIVAL: Adzido Pan-African Dance Company's *Under African Skies* (tonight, Thurs); Northern School of Contemporary Dance (tonight, Dome Theatre) in a new work by Richard Alton and final works by graduates; then locally-based Phoenix Dance Company (Mon, Tues, Dome Theatre).

Bookings office at Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 458361). Even 7.30pm, £2-£5.

CUMBRE FLAMENCA: A team of Spanish dance soloists with gypsy singers and guitarists. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London WC1 (071-278 8916), Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm, £4-£16. Until July 7.

UNION DANCE: Programme includes new work by Brenda Edwards, and the jazz piece *Blue Pictures*. Holland Park Theatre, London (071-602 7856), Fri, Sat, 8pm, £7.

JOHN PERCIVAL



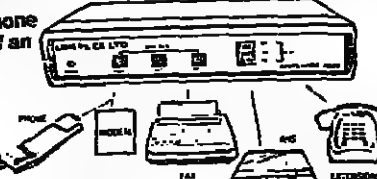
Producer John Cox: Persuaded Jeremy Isaacs to stage *William Tell*

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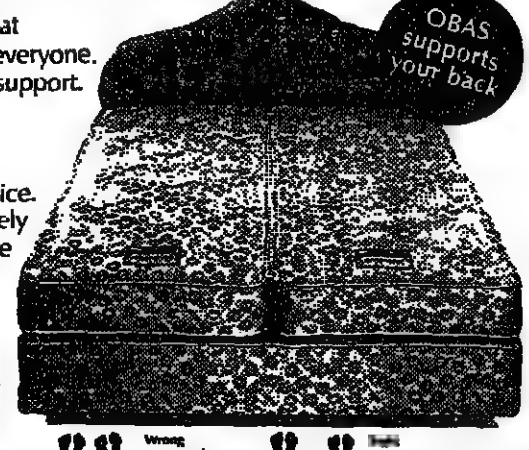
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OBAS ORTHOPAEDIC AND MEDICALS BLOCK CAPITALS

Share issue to give French big stake in Woodchester

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

TWO French groups will gain a near-controlling interest in Woodchester, the Anglo-Irish credit and leasing group, through a £100 million (£93 million) share issue, without having to make a takeover bid.

Crédit Lyonnais, the state-controlled banking group, is to subscribe for 45 million new Woodchester shares at 120p, bringing its holding up from 29.8 per cent to 45.4 per cent of the enlarged share capital. At the same time, existing shareholders will be offered six million new shares at the same price in a one-for-seventeen rights issue.

After the issue, Crédit Lyonnais is to sell a third of the subsidiary that holds its Woodchester shares to Compagnie de Navigation Mixte, the

French conglomerate. Mixte recently fought off a takeover bid from Paribas, another French banking group, which retains a large shareholding.

The issue price for the new Woodchester stock, equivalent to 187p sterling, compares with a London share price of 201p, up 8p on the news.

Woodchester has obtained a waiver from the City Takeover Panel absolving Crédit Lyonnais from making a full bid, as required under the City code, provided Woodchester's other shareholders agree.

The new cash injection, which will double shareholders' funds, is intended to reduce gearing and to prepare for expansion on the Continent in collaboration with Mixte. Dublin-based Woodchester

was formerly controlled by British & Commonwealth, which had supported rapid expansion, including the acquisition of Moorgate Mercantile and Bowmaker Bank. B&C decided to sell last year because it could no longer provide extra funds to help Woodchester grow.

John Gunn, B&C's former chairman, agreed not to sell control of Woodchester to a third party. Instead, B&C placed 32 per cent of Woodchester in August 1989 before selling its remaining 29.8 per cent holding to Crédit Lyonnais with the approval of Craig McKinney, its chairman, in December. Crédit Lyonnais paid B&C 125p a share.

Crédit Lyonnais will now consolidate Woodchester in

its accounts and is entitled to appoint four directors out of a board of eleven.

Mr McKinney said that, having resolved uncertainty over the B&C shareholding, Woodchester needed a new partner and more money to fund continental growth.

In less than three years, up to the end of 1989, Woodchester increased lease and instalment credit advances from £57 million to £320 million. Borrowings also multiplied to 566 per cent of shareholders' funds. The share issues will cut gearing to 200 per cent, which Woodchester says is conservative for the industry.

Woodchester lifted pre-tax profit by 47 per cent to £126.4 million in 1989 and says that new business is well up in the first five months of this year.

Spong to pay for Acorn with issue

TONY WHITE



Paul Lever: has been in regular contact with Acorn

SPONG Holdings, the conglomerate, is funding the £10 million purchase of Acorn, a maker of paintbrushes and decorating products, with an 84-for-100 rights issue at 22p a share (Martin Walker writes).

The vendor is Williams Holdings, another conglomerate. Paul Lever, the purchaser's chairman, moved from Williams in May 1989 after a capital restructuring at Spong.

At Williams, Mr Lever was in charge of the paints division and in regular contact with Acorn. "I know the

business and I know it is well managed," he said. "There are so many businesses you buy these days and when you get to the bottom of the garden, you find the bodies."

Acorn will be merged with Hamilton, Spong's paintbrush business, and the board is promising "significant efficiency and purchasing improvements" from a post-acquisition review. Both businesses are more than 200 years old.

Tempos, page 25

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Fobel lifts payout as it returns to the black

FOBEL International, the electrical goods and DIY accessories manufacturer, is back in the black at the pre-tax stage. Pre-tax profits last year were £120,000 compared with a loss of £181,000. But the group made a post-tax loss of £60,000, down from a deficit of £523,000, and the loss per share is 0.34p (loss of 2.8p). Sales rose from £24.9 million to £28 million. The dividend for the year is 1p (0.65p). The group made a substantial loss in the first six months of 1989.

The Far Eastern electronics division was slowed by start-up costs of a factory in China. Alan Leboff, group chairman, said both UK and the Far Eastern subsidiaries have strong order books. There is likely to be a loss in the first half this year but a strong performance in the second half with an improved result overall. The shares rose 1p to 26p on the news.

All-European stock index

THE European Options Exchange in Amsterdam has launched the first official European stock market index, the E100. The E100 will start on July 15, but until then will be published on a trial basis. After its introduction, it will be possible to trade options and futures on the new index on the Amsterdam Financial Futures Market.

Shelton rises to £511,000

MARTIN Shelton Group, the USM-quoted printer of diaries and calendars, earned pre-tax profits of £511,000 for the year to end-March, up from £419,000. A final dividend of 1.75p a share lifts the total from 2p to 2.5p, payable from earnings per share up from 5.48p to 6.54p. Turnover rose by £700,000 to £3.5 million, said Paul Martin, chairman.

Halma up at £14.1m

HALMA, the environmental control and safety group, reported taxable profits up from £11.36 million to £14.14 million for the year to end-March. A final dividend of 1.136p a share increases the total from 1.417p to 1.843p, payable from earnings per share of 9.74p, against 8.12p.

Group turnover rose from £61.1 million to £78.08 million and trading profits from £11.55 million to £14.24 million. There was an extraordinary credit of £850,000 (£297,000) arising from the sale of two non-core subsidiaries. The company spent £5.55 million on seven acquisitions.

Auckett gains at half way

AUCKETT Associates, the architectural, design and engineering consultancy, reported taxable profits up from £760,000 to £947,000 for the six months to March 31. Earnings per share rose from 3.91p to 4.52p. Directors are recommending an interim dividend of 1.5p, up from 1.25p. Turnover of £8.8 million was 52 per cent ahead from £5.8 million.

LPA climbs to £366,000

PRE-TAX profits at LPA Industries, the USM-quoted manufacturer of electrical connectors, rose from £346,000 to £366,000 for the six months to end-March. Shareholders receive an interim dividend of 1.65p a share (1.5p), payable from earnings per share of 2.65p (2.5p). Group turnover fell to £3.47 million (£3.63 million).

Amber increases 47%

AMBER Industrial Holdings, the aerosols and solvents group controlled by Caledonian Investments, raised pre-tax profits 47 per cent to £2.28 million for the year to end-March. Turnover increased from £11.36 million to £13.11 million. A final dividend of 1.6p makes a total of 16p (13.5p) for the year. Earnings per share were 39.6p, against 34.5p.

Amber expanded its interests in specialty chemicals with the £2.1 million acquisition of Servo-Chem and Formal Blending in November, using a large slice of the proceeds of a £4.9 million rights issue.

Savings ratio up to 6.1%

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE savings ratio rose to 6.1 per cent in the first quarter of this year from 5.6 per cent the previous quarter as the personal sector adjusted to continued high interest rates. Central Statistical Office figures show.

The improvement in savings as a percentage of disposable income, while welcome news for the government, was disappointing for some City economists, as there was little change from the 6 per cent reported in the third quarter last year.

Consumers are, however, not only saving more, they are spending more, thanks to a 5 per cent annual rise in real disposable income in the first quarter.

Britain's retail price index will show an annual rise of 8.4 per cent in the final quarter this year, slowing to 4.8 per cent a year later, according to the latest average of independent forecasts issued by the Treasury. This compares with the Treasury's forecast for fourth quarter year-on-year inflation of 7.25 per cent and a 5 per cent inflation rate in the second quarter next year.

Sibec liabilities put at £180m by administrator

By MATTHEW BOND

LIABILITIES at Sibec, the private retail property developer, are thought to total about £180 million, according to Michael Jordan, the administrator from Cork Gully.

Administrators were appointed at Sibec on Monday, after an application to the High Court by the Sibec board last week.

In a statement, Sibec said that the decision to seek the appointment of administrators followed the appointment of receivers at Rush & Tompkins and "continuing depressed conditions in the retail and investment market".

Like all specialist developers, Sibec relied on the sale of completed developments to furnish the cash flow out of which interest was paid.

Sibec had three joint ventures with Rush & Tompkins, including a 350,000 sq ft shopping scheme being built at a cost of £100 million in Southport and a completed shopping centre at Walsall.

Some 15 lenders have liabilities of £150 million secured against developments in progress. Unsecured lenders

are thought to have lent about £30 million. Lloyds Bank is Sibec's principal banker.

Gross assets are estimated at about £250 million, indicating that it may be possible to save the company in some form. "In no way do we see this as a liquidation," said Mr Jordan, who hopes to come up with a rescue plan in co-operation with the company's secured lenders.

Mr Jordan said that Sibec's future was heavily dependent on what value could be realised from its overseas projects. Sibec's biggest project was a shopping centre and residential development on Majorca, with an estimated building cost of £64 million. There were also projects in Spain, France and Belgium.

Mr Michael Birchall, managing director, has a majority stake in Sibec. Other shareholders include TR Property Trust, the Prudential and Electra. All will make provisions against their investments in Sibec. Property shares were unmoved by Sibec's difficulties, which had been rumoured for three weeks.

Reliant issue to fund deal and cut debts

RELIANT Group, the property and car group, is buying Ex-Press plastics for a maximum £2.5 million. A £5.5 million rights issue will fund the purchase and cut borrowings.

The group revealed a pre-tax loss in the six months to March of £4.17 million against a £61,000 profit. Sales were static at £10.1 million and the loss per share was 6.25p down from 6.5p of 0.09p. There is again no interim dividend.

Ex-Press specialises in the moulding of glass reinforced plastics. The initial consideration of £1.9 million will be met by £1.6 million in cash and £300,000 of Reliant shares.

Buyout at Ropner offshoot

By MARTIN BARROW

SHARES in Ropner, a mini-conglomerate with interests in engineering, shipping and property development, raced from 111p to 145p after news of the management buyout of Hozelock, one of its subsidiaries.

A management team, led by David Codling and backed by Citicorp Venture Capital, is paying £24 million for the company, which makes hose

connectors, garden sprayers and fountain pumps. The cash consideration is more than twice Ropner's market capitalisation of £9.48 million, even after yesterday's re-rating.

Hozelock was established in 1959 to exploit the design of the world's first all-plastic garden hose connector. It is a market leader in Britain and is making inroads into the rest of Europe, selling 25 per cent of turnover overseas. Mr Cod-

ling and three fellow executives approached Ropner after the collapse of talks over the sale of Hozelock to a third party in December.

Last year, Hozelock's sales rose from £19 million to £25 million, although taxable profits slipped from £2.3 million to £1.49 million, reduced by spending on new products and packaging. Mr Codling said that the company was "poised for rapid growth in sales and profitability."

Debenham Tewson's gain counters gloom

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in Debenham Tewson & Chinnock, the property agent, jumped 16p to 117p after it reported a 3.5 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £9.3 million for the year to end-March. The result runs counter to gloomy forecasts for the property sector where most agents are expected to report sharply lower profits this year.

However, further progress at the pre-tax level was held back by increased staff costs, up 47 per cent to £21.2 million, and a rise in associated operating costs, up 40 per cent to £14.7 million, despite a 37% jump in turnover to £45 million.

Anthony Turnbull, chief executive, said that staff numbers at the London office peaked at 605 last year. They were reduced to 544 by the year-end through natural wastage, redeployment and redundancies.

Mr Turnbull attributed the good result to the firm's wide range of business, which includes office letting at Canary Wharf and advising the English Heritage on its plans for Stonehenge. The company is paying a final dividend of 5.5p to give a total of 7.7p (7p).

Sturge buys syndicate

STURGE, Lloyd's of London's largest insurance managing agent, is buying Holmes Hayday, which manages the Lloyd's non-marine insurance syndicate 694.

The deal, at an undisclosed price, will give Sturge 28 syndicates.

Merrill quest

Merrill Lynch, the American investment bank, is looking for tenants for 35,000 sq ft of its Ropemaker Place headquarters in the City. Merrill recently pulled out of a deal to move to Canary Wharf.

ERF slides

ERF, the heavy truck manufacturer, saw pre-tax profits fall from £7.84 million to £3.27 million for the year to end-March. Eps dropped from 66.48p to 22.65p. A final dividend of 6p (11p) makes a total of 10p (15p).

Chartwell rises

Chartwell, the tile maker which was floated on the third market in January, raised pre-tax profits from £636,000 to £1 million in the year to end-March on turnover of £11.9 million (£5.1 million). The maiden dividend is 1p.

CGE bond issue

Compagnie Générale des Eaux, the French group which bought extensive stakes in Britain's water industry, is planning a Fr4.5 billion convertible bond issue to fund expansion.

Greenwich loss

Greenwich Communications, the cable television firm, cut losses before tax from £378,000 to £180,000 in the six months to end-February. There is no interim dividend.

Dresdner in link with East German bank

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

DRESDNER Bank, West Germany's second largest, has signed a joint-venture agreement with Deutsche Kreditbank, East Germany's commercial bank, to create a network of almost 100 branches in time for monetary union this weekend. The joint venture, called Dresdner Bank Kreditbank, will take over 72 of Kreditbank's branches.

Dresdner is taking a 49 per cent stake, while Kreditbank will own 47 per cent. The remaining four per cent is being offered to three of East Germany's largest companies, including VEB Carl Zeiss.

Jena, the optical equipment maker. The agreement is a compromise for Dresdner, which at first wanted to set up on its own in East Germany.

The bank changed its mind after Deutsche Bank, its main rival, agreed to run 120 of Kreditbank's branches in a similar joint venture. Commerzbank, meanwhile, hopes to set up its own network in the East.

As well as Kreditbank's 72 branches, Dresdner is planning to open 35 of its own in East Germany in the coming weeks. An additional 50 openings are planned next year.



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|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
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THE TIMES

Coloroll beats Derby blues

AS STAFF & shareholders look for a bright future, Coloroll has beaten Derby's blues. The company has reported a 10% increase in pre-tax profits to £1.1 million for the year to end-March. Sales rose from £11.5 million to £12.5 million. The dividend for the year is 1.5p (1.25p). The group made a substantial loss in the first six months of 1989.

The Far Eastern electronics division was slowed by start-up costs of a factory in China. Alan Leboff, group chairman, said both UK and the Far Eastern subsidiaries have strong order books. There is likely to be a loss in the first half this year but a strong performance in the second half with an improved result overall. The shares rose 1p to 26p on the news.

Horsetrading in the open skies

COMMENT

Despite the pan-European enthusiasm for 1992 and all that, there remains a nagging doubt that in the airline business the regulators are wholly in favour of unfettered competition. So today's verdict by Sir Leon Brittan, the EC's competition commissioner, on the planned three-way link between British Airways, KLM and the Belgian carrier Sabena, will be closely scrutinised by those in favour of a European open skies policy.

Judging by the relatively high cost of air travel in Europe compared with similar journeys in America the chill winds of competition have yet to blow, and some EC countries seem unwilling to see their national flag carriers blighted by the blast. The opponents of radical reform, an unusual alliance of the weaker flag carriers and thrusting smaller airlines aiming to block their bigger rivals, draw heavily on the American experience for their case. There, it is said, deregulation has been too much of a good thing with perhaps 200 smaller firms going out of business and the giants frequent-

ly in dire financial straits as a result. But for consumers, cut-throat price competition has kept a tight rein on fares. Brussels now talks of "managed" deregulation, giving rise to deep suspicions that it would prefer to make haste extremely slowly.

Sir Leon is expected to reveal a lengthy list of concerns over the three-way link which would create a new competitor, Sabena World Airlines. Such a move is almost mandatory for the Brussels regulators otherwise the deal will be waved through by default. But indications last night were that Sir Leon's earlier objections may be modified, and still leave the three would-be partners some leeway for compromise.

Initially, Sir Leon was thought to be directly opposed to the three-way link, preferring Sabena to ditch one of its planned partners on competition grounds. Though not explicitly stated, KLM was seen in Brussels as the

major problem due to the closeness of its operations to Sabena's.

The second main area of concern would be the increase in flights by the three partners to Brussels, which would become the hub for direct flights to a large number of smaller European cities. BA is believed to have assured the competition commission that there will be no price rigging on Brussels flights with its new partners.

British Airways originally adopted a take-it-or-leave-it attitude to the deal stressing that it would walk away if it were forced to make other route concessions in exchange. But there were signs last night that, like Sir Leon, there is now some backing off the earlier tough line.

If as expected, Sir Leon is prepared to horsetrade, Sabena

World Airlines might yet fly. Industry Secretary Mr Nicholas Ridley might still press for modifications in the British domestic market on the basis of the Monopolies Commission report which is due to land on his desk this week. But under the new EC regime, Brussels has the final word.

Ecu openings

There was something ominous about the venue of the Ecu Banking Association's opening reception in Prague last week: the marbled halls of Praha Hotel, until recently exclusive haunt of Communist party bosses. Czechoslovakia's non-Communist finance minister, Vaclav Klaus, confessed he had not even been

in the place before. But he put in an appearance because the EBA represents the top practitioners and expertise in the market for the ecu, a near-money that could be a key to Eastern Europe's adjustment.

The former Soviet satellites are warmly being invited to issue ecu-denominated bonds to secure financing. But the disintegrating Soviet economy, set to receive Western aid, is not being asked to the same party.

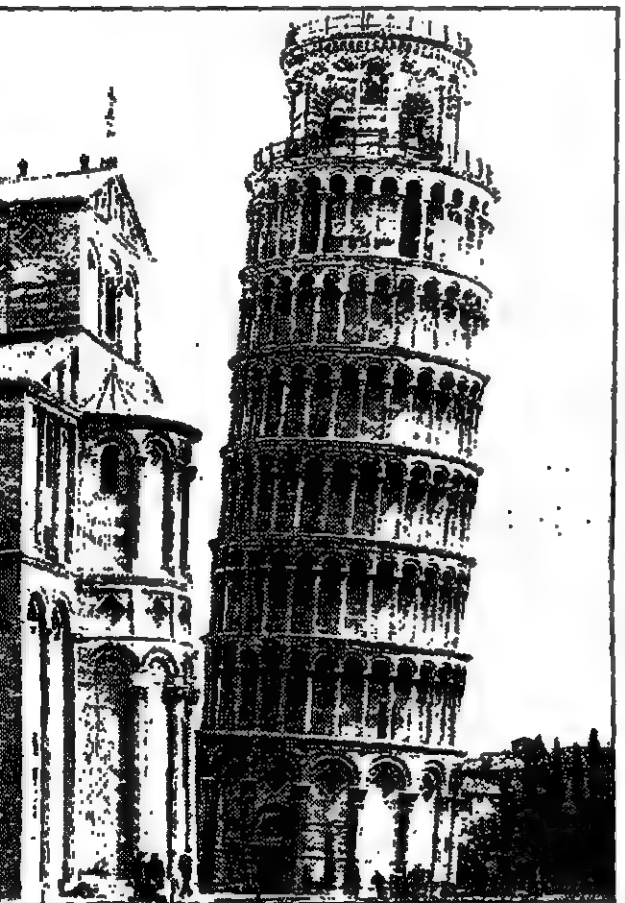
The gap between the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe is too wide. Two-speed development is seen as inevitable. Eastern European problems are perceived as quite manageable to an increasingly assertive European Community.

As the debate about European monetary union drags on, ecu bankers are looking ahead to a golden era when the ecu bond market becomes the world's largest financial market. And here Eastern Europe could hitch a

ride, albeit not a free one. Graham Bishop of Salomon Brothers, has a "piggy-back" scenario in which the ecu bond market allows Eastern Europe to create the "trustworthy money" it lacks. It will be several years before these countries establish sophisticated financial markets, and he believes they have every reason to "borrow" the financial muscle Western Europe will develop. Once the scale and liquidity of the EC governments' borrowing is established, Eastern European governments could issue ecu bonds at a yield spread over the EC countries. Over time, if Eastern European governments succeeded in creating healthy domestic economies, bond yields ought to fall. Indeed, the size of the yield premium could provide a neat test of a country's readiness to fulfil any ambitions about joining the EMU.

But it would be an economic and political mistake to leave the Soviet Union, or its component parts, out in the cold. Ecu benefits must not stop at the Russian border. The bankers can surely find a way of advancing to Moscow.

Lloyds Bank challenges \$796m order by Italians



Court centre: Pisa, home of the leaning tower

WHILE English soccer fans riot under the Italian sun, Lloyds Bank officials are sweating under the glare of Italian law. Tomorrow they are due in court, in Pisa, to try to overturn a decision that has put at risk almost \$800 million and made the country a no-go area for the bank's lucrative foreign exchange, trade finance and treasury operations.

Last week's order, by magistrates in Pisa, to sequester \$796 million of Lloyds' assets came as a shock to the bank. The order came in response to a private hearing, and Lloyds was not even represented.

Immediately the court ordered bailiffs to contact the country's banks, to freeze Lloyds' lire or foreign currency denominated assets. Both trade finance and treasury operate on large, irregular cash flows and Lloyds is still assessing the amounts that have been frozen. It is unlikely, however, that the full amount has been seized.

Lloyds is also trying to rescue as much of the Italian-based business as possible by channeling business to overseas branches of Italian banks, and holding funds abroad. While the feeling is that the bank will sort the affair out eventually, it could have a long-term effect on its credibility in the international banking world.

The affair stems from the police's seizure of Philippine promissory notes worth \$753 million three years ago. The notes at face value had been issued by a regional governor from the islands and counter-signed by the mysterious Commercial Bank of Djibouti. The package also included a selection of Indonesian notes.

This was not high grade paper by anyone's standards but the orders represented handsome profits to a collection of banks and export brokers who were offered large cashed.

Two Italian traders, Antonio Marinari and Roberto Esposito, had been using the notes to place orders with brokers for a range of goods, including grain, steel and one million bicycles. The orders

were for Hassan Zubaidi, a Palestinian businessman, and destined for the Jordanian port of Aqaba. They planned to discount the notes with a bank and exchange them for letters of credit.

To do this, they enlisted the help of two English brokers, John Kemp and Peter Taylor.

notes with the bank, where they were sealed, and placed in the vault. After initial enquiries, however, Lloyds decided the notes were suspicious and tipped off the police. The police arrested the four men and seized the notes.

The men were charged with conspiracy to defraud and, after committal proceedings, the case went to trial in Liverpool in 1988. Mr Taylor was acquitted soon after the trial began and after evidence from Lorenzo Tewel, a Filipino official, that the notes were genuine, the judge said there was no case to answer and instructed the jury to acquit the remaining three.

He refused to grant an order to return the notes, however, and the police later wrote to Lloyds saying they intended to keep them in perpetuity.

A statement from the police last week said they "are awaiting any action taken against us to recover the notes".

Instead, Signor Marinari has decided to take action against Lloyds in Italy, with devastating effect. Italian courts have a record of draconian actions against bankers. Several years ago a judge imprisoned Mario Sarcinelli, the Central Bank of Italy's deputy director, for three days over a supervision dispute. Even Paolo Baffi, the governor, was only excused jail due to his advancing years.

Fortunately, Signor Sarcinelli's imprisonment was overturned on appeal and he is now the head of the treasury. But Sir Jeremy Morse and Brian Pittman, Lloyds' chairman and chief executive, may think twice before booking their next holiday in Venice.

While bankers believe Lloyds will be able to sort out the problem eventually, it highlights the unchanging perils of international banking. If a European Community member and one of Britain's main trading partners can have an English bank so effectively, the sanctions available to further-flung countries do not bear thinking about. The day of the global village finance house looks further away than ever.

Neil Bennett

Maxwell growth has a price

IT HAS taken Robert Maxwell just 15 months to transform Maxwell Communications Corporation from a predominantly British printing operation to a global publishing conglomerate with 80 per cent of its operating profits derived from North America.

However, it will take the publisher and press baron at least another 15 months to realise the benefits of MCC's quick metamorphosis as a buoyant share price and strong earnings growth.

Provided that MCC makes no major acquisitions this year, a substantial caveat given Mr Maxwell's global ambitions, and concentrates on cutting its huge debt, rapid profit growth should be seen in two years' time. However, the short-term quality of MCC earnings will remain questionable until gearing, now 190 per cent, falls below 100 per cent.

Borrowings have been cut from £2.1 billion at the March year-end to £1.9 billion. Mr Maxwell expects to raise \$950 million from disposing of American property, low-margin professional publishing interests and some peripheral European printing operations. However, City concern remains over MCC's ability to get debt below £1 billion this year.

Current-year profit forecasts were hard to come by in the City yesterday after MCC's pre-tax profits for the year to March failed, at £172.3 million, to meet the widely forecast £185 million. At least, earnings were maintained during a shift from low-quality cyclical businesses to higher-margin fields. Earnings per share rose 4 per cent on an annualised basis to 20p, compared to 24p for the 15 months to March 1989. The dividend is also up 4 per cent to 15p.

The shares, down 3p to 196p, are unlikely to climb until debt is cut. A prospective earnings multiple of about 9, compared to an average of 15 in publishing, speaks volumes for MCC's City image.

Anglo United

GIVEN that pre-tax profits at Anglo United, the coal group, grew by 130 per cent last year and that earnings per share rose by 55 per cent, shareholders might feel just a little bit aggrieved by only a 17 per cent rise in dividend. So is David McErlain, chairman and 15 per cent shareholder, being prudent or mean?

Anglo United's progress since it won its £480 million leveraged bid for Coalite last July has been impressive. Helped by an eight-month contribution from Coalite, pre-tax profits in the year to March rose from £6.6 million to £15.3 million.

Turnover more than quadrupled to £534 million. So why has the final dividend risen by only 0.2p to 1.2p (1.2p)? Anglo still has some serious digesting to do before Mr McErlain can move on to his next prey.

Interest charges last year were £26.3 million, reflecting the highly leveraged nature of the Coalite deal.

Disposal of £135 million may have reduced net borrowings to £282 million, but there is still a long way to go.

By opting to write off £338 million of goodwill associated with the Coalite deal, Anglo now has a negative net worth of £220 million in its balance sheet, which could take some years to clear and is why the shares, at 46p on a prospective p/e of only 7.3, assuming profits of £21 million, should be bought only by those who understand the complexities of such financial engineering.

Spong

ONE of the most memorable, if least euphonious, names will disappear from the stock exchange lists as a result of Spong Holdings' purchase of Acorn, a fellow maker of brushes and other painting tools. Spong will be reborn as the much duller Lionheart, signifying the final break with

the former mining machine manufacturer which was revived by a cash injection from Hillsdown Investment Trust last year.

The group is now a mini-conglomerate with interests in housewares, shop display systems and paint brushes. The deal with Acorn is a costly one. Paul Lever, the man put in charge of Spong by Hillsdown, used to run the paint business of Williams Holdings, including Crown, while Acorn, once part of Crown, is being bought from Williams' consumer products division.

The purchase is for £10 million, but Acorn will bring with it a dowry of about £1.5 million in cash provided by Williams. It is funded by an 84-for-100 rights issue which already has the backing of a quarter of the share capital.

Monopoly considerations seem no bar as the combined group would have about 30 per cent of the paint brush manufacturing market, compared with the 45 per cent controlled by the biggest player, Spong is paying an entry multiple of 14 times' past earnings.

Its own shares change hands on almost 11 times' 1990 earnings, falling to eight times' 1991, which year should see a return to the dividend list.

Not cheap in the hard-hat DIY area, but the management has a good record.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Coloroll beats Derby blues

AS STAFF at Coloroll, the stricken home furnishings group, ponder their fate, a fortunate handful will be left with lasting and somewhat happier memories of the Epsom Derby, which had become a regular event on the company's social calendar. Indeed Coloroll, two days before it was placed in receivership, had reserved one of the exclusive chalets at the Epsom paddock, which typically cost £7,000 a time and are the last word in corporate hospitality. The good news, for the directors at Epsom who like to keep their books balanced, is that the day at the Derby - where prices start from £199 a head - had been paid for in advance. "We start taking bookings in the autumn, and they are typically sold out months in advance," says one insider, who tells me that a day in a box or chalet includes morning coffee, a champagne reception and a four-course lunch, not to mention afternoon tea.

A FRAMED notice in the reception area of a firm of Manchester accountants: "Old accountants never die; they just lose their balance."

Property prop

JUDITH Huntley, once a property writer on these pages, who succumbed to the temptations of the City proper and became a property analyst at Kleinwort Benson, before



"Application from Ferrari for listing as a law firm."

Bowled over

THE fifth annual Vickers versus Financial Hacks cricket game at the Foster's Oval this week started with an unusual flurry when Jeff Randall, City editor of the Sunday Times and the journalists' team captain, failed to turn up. The hacks' unease was exacerbated when they learned that Randall's absence was caused by an abrupt departure to chase an "exclusive" story for next Sunday's paper. Peter Osborne of the Evening Standard gamely filled the breach but by mid-afternoon, the hacks were in a spot of bother after Vickers clocked up 172 runs for five wickets with ten overs in hand. Sunday's story had better be good...

Jolly good sports

UP TO 1,000 brokers, lawyers and their friends will swap the Square Mile for Battersea Park this evening, to compete in the annual Save & Prosper City Sports Night. Events including tennis and softball begin at 6.30 and will be followed by a barbecue, wine and beer, and a disco until 2am - all for £30 a ticket. Surprisingly, a third of the competitors, including teams from Bear Stearns, Robert Fleming and Linklaters & Paines, are solicitors, with bankers making up a further 27 per cent. Stockbrokers and fund managers constitute a mere 18 per cent.

Filling the hole

HOT on the heels of being voted the top composite insurance analyst in last week's Extel survey, Paul Hodges, who was with Kitch & Aitken until it withdrew from the UK equity market, making 120 employees redundant, has now joined Warburg Securities. Hodges, aged 30, took up his post on Monday, and will be working alongside Michael Heskeith, head of the insurance team, and Roger Hill, the life analyst. Hodges, who was with Kitch for more than four years, was ranked third in his sector in the 1989 Extel survey, and first moved into the top slot in the Institutional Investor survey this year. He was introduced to his new position by Stevenson Cobbold, a leading City headhunter. "There was a hole to fill," quips Hodges, adding that it was his North American contacts who helped lift him to the top of the league tables.

Leading the speculation

that will now change," says Russell Leiman, chief executive of the firm's institutional equities division.

Neil Bennett

leading to speculation that the never-ending round of client lunches may have become too much for them. But they are still way ahead of the accountancy profession, which could drum up only an embarrassing 5 per cent of the total. The event is the brainchild of Christopher Gore of Halsey BDC, a firm of headhunters. He says Battersea is an ideal location. "It's a lot cheaper than giving a ball in one of the big London hotels."

Carol Leonard

Portfolio

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WORLD MARKET

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WALL STREET

Dow surges 24 points

New York
The Dow Jones industrial average surged by 24 points to 2,869.05 at the start of trading, aided by futures-related buying. Blue chips were sharply higher, supported by gains in foreign markets and a firmer American bond market. Rising shares outnumbered declining issues three to one.

● Tokyo - Shares closed sharply higher on bargain-hunting after two days of declines. The Nikkei average closed up 447.58 points, or 1.44 per cent, at 31,571.77.

(Reader)

STOCK MARKET

Shares lose impetus after breaking through 2,400

By MICHAEL CLARK
STOCK MARKET
CORRESPONDENT

Source: Datastream

The FTSE 100 index saw a lead of almost 22 points steadily whittled away, to finish just 13.82 better at 2,399.8. The FT index of 30 shares ended 2.8 lower at 1,926.6. Dealers said that the equity market spent most of the day shadowing the futures market where the FTSE 100 series opened with a healthy premium after the appearance of a large buyer on Monday. But it later dropped by more than 20 points, dragging the cash market down with it.

The June futures and options series both expire on Friday - coinciding with the end of the second quarter for institutions. As a result, there was little liquidity and fund managers were reluctant to open new positions.

In early trading, investors chose to ignore the overnight setback on Wall Street and drew encouragement instead from a stronger pound and the growing prospect of a cut in interest rates this autumn. In the thin conditions, market-makers had little choice but to mark prices higher. A total of 461 million shares were traded. Government securities struggled to achieve gains of 2/4 at the longer end.

The chemicals sector suffered a series of profit downgrades by one securities house, believed to be Warburg Securities. The price estimate for ICI for the current year is said to have been reduced from £1.47 billion to £1.42 billion because of the downturn in the chemical industry. ICI fell 10p to £11.84. There have also been reductions in the forecasts for Hickman International, down 2p at 198p, and Croda International, 4p lower at 168p.

Next, the troubled fashion retailer, rallied 5p to 54p after Monday's depressed levels, which saw the price reach a

tax profit estimate for ICI for the current year is said to have been reduced from £1.47 billion to £1.42 billion because of the downturn in the chemical industry. ICI fell 10p to £11.84. There have also been reductions in the forecasts for Hickman International, down 2p at 198p, and Croda International, 4p lower at 168p.

Next, the troubled fashion retailer, rallied 5p to 54p after Monday's depressed levels, which saw the price reach a

low. Analysts are worried about the group's deteriorating trading position and fear that it will have to make an exceptional write-off of interest payable on its property development portfolio due to falling property prices. Some estimates claim that the figure could be as high as £8 million. There have also been reports

that the group is having difficulty selling its property division.

Next, it is increasingly being regarded as a takeover target. George Davies, the ousted founder and chairman, has said that he would consider launching his own bid if the price fell as low as 50p.

Sears, the Selfridges and Debenhams stores and Freemans mail order group, is thought to be interested in Grattan's, Next's mail order business,

and has already built up a 3 per cent holding.

ERF, Britain's last independent truck maker, fell 20p to 153p after reporting full-year figures showing pre-tax profits more than halved to £3.2 million with earnings a share tumbling from 66.4p to 22.6p. Registrations at the heavy end of the market, vehicles weigh-

ing more than 16 tonnes, have been worst affected, falling by more than 30 per cent.

The drinks sector made most of the early running, extending Monday's gains. Hopes are high that the £850 million proceeds from Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton's tender offer for Guinness will be ploughed back into the drinks sector. Guinness eased 2p to 79p.

Allied-Lyons continued to benefit from recommendations by Warburg Securities and its rival, Panmure Gordon, with a rise of 3p to 509p.

The buyers were chasing Bass, up 3p to £11.11 in a thin market. HP Bulmer, 2p to 173p. Derwent, 4p to 174p. Greenall Whitley, 2p to 356p. Marston, Thompson & Evershed, 3p to 195p and Whitbread A, 4p to 447p.

Scottish & Newcastle lost an early lead to close all-square at 337p, ahead of next week's figures which are expected to show taxable profits up from £13.8 million to £18.2 million. But Grand Metropolitan suffered from a switch recommendation from Warburg with a fall of 12p to 660p.

Allied Leisure, the ten-pin bowling alley operator, which recently raised £4 million by a rights issue, held steady at 133p. Of the shares issued, 80.83 per cent were taken up by shareholders. The price of 83.45 shares has placed it at 110p in the market by Henderson Crosthwaite.

Eversed, the quarries group, rose 4p to 136p after a presentation for Scottish fund managers, arranged by James Capel.

The shares of the group, which recently raised £4 million by a rights issue, held steady at 133p. Of the shares issued, 80.83 per cent were taken up by shareholders. The price of 83.45 shares has placed it at 110p in the market by Henderson Crosthwaite.

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LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

| Option | Strike | Call | Put | Call | Put |
|----------|--------|------|-----|------|-----|
| ASX Lyon | 450 | 54 | 75 | 85 | 7 |
| ASX Lyon | 500 | 21 | 47 | 18 | 24 |
| ASX Lyon | 550 | 4 | 22 | 36 | 41 |
| ASX Lyon | 600 | 1 | 10 | 25 | 48 |
| ASX Lyon | 650 | 0 | 5 | 15 | 55 |
| ASX Lyon | 700 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 62 |
| ASX Lyon | 750 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 69 |
| ASX Lyon | 800 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 76 |
| ASX Lyon | 850 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 83 |
| ASX Lyon | 900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| ASX Lyon | 950 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 97 |
| ASX Lyon | 1000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 104 |
| ASX Lyon | 1050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 111 |
| ASX Lyon | 1100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 118 |
| ASX Lyon | 1150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 125 |
| ASX Lyon | 1200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 132 |
| ASX Lyon | 1250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 139 |
| ASX Lyon | 1300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 146 |
| ASX Lyon | 1350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 153 |
| ASX Lyon | 1400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 160 |
| ASX Lyon | 1450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 167 |
| ASX Lyon | 1500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 174 |
| ASX Lyon | 1550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 181 |
| ASX Lyon | 1600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 188 |
| ASX Lyon | 1650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 195 |
| ASX Lyon | 1700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 202 |
| ASX Lyon | 1750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 209 |
| ASX Lyon | 1800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 216 |
| ASX Lyon | 1850 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 223 |
| ASX Lyon | 1900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 230 |
| ASX Lyon | 1950 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 237 |
| ASX Lyon | 2000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 244 |
| ASX Lyon | 2050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 251 |
| ASX Lyon | 2100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 258 |
| ASX Lyon | 2150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 265 |
| ASX Lyon | 2200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 272 |
| ASX Lyon | 2250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 279 |
| ASX Lyon | 2300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 286 |
| ASX Lyon | 2350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 293 |
| ASX Lyon | 2400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 300 |
| ASX Lyon | 2450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 307 |
| ASX Lyon | 2500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 314 |
| ASX Lyon | 2550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 321 |
| ASX Lyon | 2600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 328 |
| ASX Lyon | 2650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 335 |
| ASX Lyon | 2700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 342 |
| ASX Lyon | 2750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 349 |
| ASX Lyon | 2800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 356 |
| ASX Lyon | 2850 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 363 |
| ASX Lyon | 2900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 370 |
| ASX Lyon | 2950 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 377 |
| ASX Lyon | 3000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 384 |
| ASX Lyon | 3050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 391 |
| ASX Lyon | 3100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 398 |
| ASX Lyon | 3150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 405 |
| ASX Lyon | 3200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 412 |
| ASX Lyon | 3250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 419 |
| ASX Lyon | 3300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 426 |
| ASX Lyon | 3350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 433 |
| ASX Lyon | 3400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 440 |
| ASX Lyon | 3450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 447 |
| ASX Lyon | 3500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 454 |
| ASX Lyon | 3550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 461 |
| ASX Lyon | 3600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 468 |
| ASX Lyon | 3650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 475 |
| ASX Lyon | 3700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 482 |
| ASX Lyon | 3750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 489 |
| ASX Lyon | 3800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 496 |
| ASX Lyon | 3850 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 503 |
| ASX Lyon | 3900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 510 |
| ASX Lyon | 3950 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 517 |
| ASX Lyon | 4000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 524 |
| ASX Lyon | 4050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 531 |
| ASX Lyon | 4100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 538 |
| ASX Lyon | 4150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 545 |
| ASX Lyon | 4200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 552 |
| ASX Lyon | 4250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 559 |
| ASX Lyon | 4300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 566 |
| ASX Lyon | 4350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 573 |
| ASX Lyon | 4400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 580 |
| ASX Lyon | 4450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 587 |
| ASX Lyon | 4500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 594 |
| ASX Lyon | 4550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 601 |
| ASX Lyon | 4600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 608 |
| ASX Lyon | 4650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 615 |
| ASX Lyon | 4700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 622 |
| ASX Lyon | 4750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 629 |
| ASX Lyon | 4800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 636 |
| ASX Lyon | 4850 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 643 |
| ASX Lyon | 4900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 650 |
| ASX Lyon | 4950 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 657 |
| ASX Lyon | 5000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 664 |
| ASX Lyon | 5050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 671 |
| ASX Lyon | 5100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 678 |
| ASX Lyon | 5150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 685 |
| ASX Lyon | 5200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 692 |
| ASX Lyon | 5250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 699 |
| ASX Lyon | 5300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 706 |
| ASX Lyon | 5350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 713 |
| ASX Lyon | 5400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 720 |
| ASX Lyon | 5450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 727 |
| ASX Lyon | 5500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 734 |
| ASX Lyon | 5550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 741 |
| ASX Lyon | 5600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 748 |
| ASX Lyon | 5650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 755 |
| ASX Lyon | 5700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 762 |
| ASX Lyon | 5750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 769 |
| ASX Lyon | 5800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 776 |
| ASX Lyon | 5850 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 783 |
| ASX Lyon | 5900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 790 |
| ASX Lyon | 5950 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 797 |
| ASX Lyon | 6000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 804 |
| ASX Lyon | 6050 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 811 |
| ASX Lyon | 6100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 818 |
| ASX Lyon | 6150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 825 |
| ASX Lyon | 6200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 832 |
| ASX Lyon | 6250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 839 |
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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

1

| Open | High | Low | Close | Vol | Open | High | Low |
|------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|------|-----|
|------|------|-----|-------|-----|------|------|-----|

| Sterling | | | | | US Treasury Bond | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Previous open interest 163874 | | | | | Previous | | | |
| | | | | | Sep 90 | 92-28 | 93-19 | 92-23 |
| 5.48 | 85.49 | 85.48 | 85.47 | 5659 | | | | |
| 5.38 | 86.33 | 86.25 | 86.32 | 6159 | | | | |
| Long Gilt | | | | | | | | |

| Euro DM | | | | | German Govt Bond | | | |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1.59 | 91.67 | 91.58 | 91.84 | 9438 | Sep 90 | 82.79 | 83.45 | 82.76 |

LONDON FOX | LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

The great city reborn to shine in Europe

Glasgow has taken nearly ten years of intensive urban regeneration and a newly discovered pride to reach its apogee as European City of Culture for 1990. International recognition of Glasgow as a leading city of Europe is now unquestioned.

Glasgow, the 1970s slum, has emerged as a centre of culture. The change follows remarkable co-operation between the public and private sectors

At the end of the 1970s, Glasgow, Scotland's largest city, was a byword for inner-city deprivation in both image and reality. Grime and dereliction were visible on almost every street, and the notorious post-war housing schemes on the city's edge were crumbling.

Even worse was the east end, recognised as the worst area of deprivation in Western Europe. By 1976, the Glasgow Eastern Area Renewal scheme had started under a Labour government and soon was referred to as Europe's most ambitious inner-city renewal. The scheme covered 4,000 acres of new housing, modernised tenements and factories. In 1987, Margaret Thatcher called the effort a brilliant example of public and private sector co-operation.

This combination of public initiative and private investment has been largely responsible for the transformation that has taken place right across Glasgow in the past decade. The new developments, cleaned-up buildings and reborn sense of civic pride have produced a confidence unseen since Glasgow was one of the world's industrial powerhouses.

The Victorian buildings of Glasgow, high point of its architectural heritage, have been painstakingly restored or preserved in recent years. The best example is City Chambers, the district council's headquarters in George Square in the heart of the city. The building has a restored honey-coloured sandstone facade and an Italian marble-clad interior, recalling the days when Glasgow's wealth exceeded that of most other urban centres in Europe.

Glasgow has declined steady

and leather goods, crafts, bookshops and delicatessens. It is clearly modelled on the arcades of Milan and Turin, emphasising the Italian influence on new shopping developments in the city. The Italian Centre, taking the theme even further, is due to open soon next to the City Chambers.

Such attractions and the new world-famous Burrell Collection have made Glasgow a tourism hub in Strathclyde and beyond. Between 1982 and 1987, the number of visitors to the city increased from 700,000 to 2.1 million.

Other figures indicating Glasgow's development are equally impressive. In the early 1980s, hotels had a 35 per cent occupancy rate. Even after the construction of several new executive hotels in recent years, including the Holiday Inn and the Forum,

that figure has risen to more than 90 per cent.

Ken Walton, the public relations director for the Greater Glasgow Tourist Board and Convention Bureau, attributes the tourism boom to the city's cultural background, its attraction as a business and conference centre and the efforts made in tourist development, particularly during the past five years.

"You could tell people until you are black and blue in the face that Glasgow is not an industrial slum, but people would not believe you because of the image," he says. "What we needed was a general event in the city to capture the imagination of the world."

That came in 1988 with the Glasgow Garden Festival, a five-month-long attraction that brought in 4.3 million visitors, more than any other comparable event in Britain. The City of Culture celebrations will improve the worldwide image further.

Glasgow has also grown as a business centre, thanks partly to the construction of the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre on a former River Clyde dock and to the large choice of meeting venues. Glasgow has had £60 million worth of conference business since 1987, and has played host to more than 140 business gatherings this year.

Glasgow airport, with increased tourism and business interest from abroad in mind, is also expanding and has recently introduced direct transatlantic flights now that the open-skies policy favoured by the government has been adopted.

Mr Walton believes this new air link with the world will be the catalyst for further growth, leading in turn to another enhancement of the city's image. Glasgow, he says, could provide a convenient bridge between North America and Europe, and transit passengers could choose to make the ten-minute journey to the city centre for a short break en route to their final destination.



Beauty and dignity: the Stirling Library is one of the draws for the two million tourists who see Glasgow every year

Beautiful balance of work and play

Scotland's three newest towns offer some most pleasant business environments

Three of Scotland's five new towns are in Strathclyde. All have now reached maturity, and all have track records proving they have achieved significant industrial and commercial success.

The three towns - Irvine, Cumbernauld and East Kilbride - pride themselves on offering some of Scotland's most pleasant business environments, together with skilled workforces, modern housing and first-class shopping and leisure facilities.

The greenfield sites they can offer for industrial development are particularly attractive to inward investors, especially in the high-technology field. Many of Scotland's leading electronics companies are located in Strathclyde's new towns. The trend is likely to continue.

East Kilbride, the oldest of Scotland's new towns, was designated in 1948. It is now the sixth biggest town in Scotland, with a population of more than 70,000 people, and is home to a range of companies, including electronics multinationals Motorola and Rockwell International.

One of East Kilbride's biggest advantages is its position - only 12 miles to the south of Glasgow. It has easy access to the main M74-A74 road link to England, and is within a 30-minute drive of Glasgow Airport.

Confidence in the town abounds. It is continuing to market itself aggressively as an industrial base, and the recent growth in private housing, particularly in the £100,000 plus sector, is testament to its appeal both as a dormitory town for Glasgow and as a thriving community in its own right.

The attraction of East Kilbride has continued with the development of its town centre as one of the largest covered shopping areas in Europe.

The new town's range of outlets, modern malls and large car parks have created a genuine alternative for many shoppers who have grown tired of the bustle and parking problems encountered in Glasgow city centre.

This year, a total of £70 million is to be spent on further investment in East Kilbride. The development corporation claims that nowhere in Britain is there such continuing investment per head of population in the development of a community.

J. Allan Denholm, the chairman of the corporation, says: "It is this commitment to building a successful community that has created 32,000 jobs and brought unemployment down to under six per cent within an environment which is attracting residents to the town as fast as housebuilders can provide new homes."

Irvine, Britain's first new town by the sea, also has relatively easy access to Glasgow and the rest of Strathclyde. Designated a new town in 1966, it grew rapidly with the arrival of companies such as Beecham and Volvo. Irvine suffered badly in the late-1970s recession but recovered in the 1980s with the growth of electronics companies in the town.

Firms operating in this sector include Amkor/Anam, one of the world's largest assemblers of printed circuits; Conner Peripherals; and Fullerton Fabrications, an indigenous Scottish firm founded 11 years ago. By the end of this year, it is estimated that more

than 3,000 will be employed in electronics in Irvine.

Another industrial success for the town is the Caledonian Paper plant commissioned last year by the Kymmene Corporation of Finland. The mill, which produces lightweight coated paper, cost £215 million to establish, making it the largest single foreign investment in Scotland.

Facilities in the town include a shopping mall now under refurbishment and expansion at a cost of £10 million and an attractive harbour area which is home to the Scottish Maritime Museum. The jobless rate in Irvine has

dropped from 23 per cent in 1983 to 10.1 per cent last month. New prosperity means demand for housing is high: eight private developers are building on greenfield sites.

Strathclyde's third new town, Cumbernauld, has seen its population grow from 2,500 to 50,000 during the past 30 years. Cumbernauld has a home-ownership figure of nearly 60 per cent, and has proved attractive to Japanese companies, which employ more than 800 in the area.

The Westwood Golf Course, designed by Dave Thomas and Seve Ballesteros as part of a wider £50 million

development, opened recently and its own airport will hold its second airshow on July 1.

All Strathclyde's new towns benefit from the presence of two universities in Glasgow, each providing a steady stream of graduates to help reinforce their success. The University of Glasgow is one of the oldest learning establishments in Britain and has a reputation for excellence in traditional academic subjects. The University of Strathclyde's strength lies in its background in a technical institution, with a particular reputation in business studies and engineering.

A development by **BPT** **CONROY HUNTER** **Edward Erdman**

Conroy Hunter, 18 Hill Street, Edinburgh EH2 3JF, Tel. 031 226 4791

Edward Erdman, 242 West George Street, Glasgow G2 4QY, Tel. 041 221 8345

Prestige headquarters building
250 St. Vincent Street Glasgow

44,420 sq ft
of high quality open plan
office space over 7 floors
Glazed central atrium
Impressive entrance hall
Air handling system
15 car spaces
Now available

In 1990 we'll pipe in 40,000 new Scottish customers

with the St. Enoch Centre and the Forge. This scale of investment ensures we continue to increase recruitment at every level throughout our operation.

Within Glasgow itself, our St. Enoch Centre showroom is the flagship of our nationwide investment in retail outlets. While our role as one of the major sponsors of the 1990 European City of Culture has enabled us to further our corporate involvement in Scottish art, sport and charity.

When you consider all these things together it's easy to believe that in Scotland, you can even hear the gas pipes playing a quick march.

British Gas Scotland

In towns and villages throughout Scotland, we continue to give (and get) a warm reception. The reason? Our GasLink programme which now yields over 40,000 new customers a year, mostly in areas not previously supplied by us.

But bringing our "pipes" to more Scots is only part of our strategy. A strategy for growth, which also has direct benefits for commercial and industrial users, and which in the 1980's alone resulted in a 50% increase in gas sales.

Now 1990 sees us invest a further £80 million in major Scottish projects. These include industrial developments with domestic supply spin-offs, and prestigious commercial projects to compare

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Region gears up for a technology transfer

The Ravenscraig steelworks, its smoke and steam belching out over the surrounding landscape, is more than just an industrial monolith. In Scotland it has come to represent the country's pride in its industrial success and heritage.

However, Ravenscraig has become Scotland's last great temple to heavy engineering and, as such, reflects the change in Strathclyde's economy. Its own survival is at stake. British Steel has announced that it intends to close its hot strip mill with the loss of almost 800 jobs next year. The symbolic status of the steelworks will guarantee a political and commercial struggle to save it in the months ahead.

The stark fact is that Strathclyde has all but bypassed its heavy engineering and manufacturing past. There are individual instances of the steam hammer continuing to flourish. Shipbuilding on the Clyde has had a modest renaissance. Generally, the smokestack industries have given way to a booming high technology and service sector.

In Strathclyde, as in Scotland, electronics has been an important growth area. The western end of the so-called Silicon Glen, one of the biggest concentrations of activity outside California, starts in Ayrshire and stretches into Lanarkshire and Dunbartonshire and further to the east.

Companies such as IBM in Greenock and Motorola in East Kilbride have spearheaded a new industrial revolution. Nearly 50,000 Scots are now employed in electronics, the fastest growing sector of the country's economy. Most of the investment in electronics comes from overseas companies, mainly American and Japanese. These companies are attracted by generous financial assistance, the quality and relative cheapness of the indigenous labour force and Strathclyde's position as an integral English-speaking region of the European Community.

The already established electronics sector in Strathclyde continues to grow. Conner Peripherals, the fastest-expanding company in American business history, expects to employ 1,300 people within five years at a new £50 million plant in Irvine, Ayrshire. At the other end of the scale, Flexible Technology exports across the world from its unlikely manufacturing base at Rothsay on the Isle of Bute.

There is some doubt whether Strathclyde's electronics sector can con-

Smokestack industries are giving way to the microchip revolution



Ravenscraig steelworks: Scotland's last temple to heavy industry?

tinue to flourish after the completion of the single European market. If the new trading arrangements lead to European business centralisation around the golden triangle of northern Europe, then Scotland, with its poor transport links to the centre, could be at a serious disadvantage.

Within Strathclyde, the government has plans for improved road links. The A74 link with England will be upgraded to motorway standard and a new toll road, built with private finance, will connect it to the M8 Glasgow to Edinburgh route. A proposal has also been made to upgrade links with Ayrshire through the congested south side of Glasgow.

There are worries that plans to connect Strathclyde with the rest of Europe via the Channel tunnel after its opening in 1993 do little more than pay lip-service to the notion of a fast, pan-continental link. Businesses are particularly worried that there are no plans for a fast rail link. The Scottish National Party has called for a fast-link rail and ferry service between Scotland and Denmark to ease the bottleneck, but to no avail.

The Clyde once built some of the world's greatest battleships and ocean liners, including the QE2. But its launch can now be seen in retrospect as the

river's shipbuilding swansong. In the past 25 years the industry has declined steadily. John Brown, the builder of the QE2, no longer constructs ships. Scott Lithgow, whose name was once known across half the world, is now kept on standby waiting for orders that may never come.

There are signs, however, of emerging success after the despair of the 1970s and 1980s. Govan Shipbuilders found its feet when Eric Mackie, its charismatic chief executive, struck a deal with the once notorious shipbuilding unions for flexibility and industrial pragmatism that pulled the yard up by its bootstraps.

Operating new practices, such as modular building and multi-skilled working, Govan built the Norseia in the mid-1980s, the largest passenger vessel to be constructed on the Clyde since the QE2. In recent years, Govan has been taken over by the Norwegian Kvaerner group and continues to prosper under its new name of Kvaerner Govan, making specialist ships, such as liquid petroleum gas carriers, for which there is likely to be a growing demand.

Across the Clyde, the Yarrow yard specialises in warships. Its future is less clear-cut. The company failed to win a Royal Navy order for a new batch of type-23 frigates last year and gave a warning that redundancies could follow. It is pinning its hopes on another round of warship procurement later this year and stresses its specialist design and construction skills. Defence cuts stemming from a thaw in East-West relations are, however, another possible cloud on the horizon.

Although Edinburgh has a reputation as a European centre of banking and finance, Glasgow is developing its own name in these fields, including assurance, fund management and stockbroking. BP established a headquarters division in the city after its takeover of Britoil and seems likely to prosper as the North Sea oil and gas industry enters its second stage of field development.

New offices, with comparably low costs, are filling up with companies, many of which have abandoned the expense and problems of London and southeast locations. These factors have also influenced government bodies, such as the Overseas Development Administration, which moved into purpose-built offices on a greenfield site on the edge of East Kilbride, and the National Savings Bank which has its headquarters in Cowglen, Glasgow.



Sailing by: the Isle of Mull ferry leaves Oban to begin its journey around the waters of the northern islands

A world away from city bustle

Rural havens set in rolling hills or Scottish glens, far from the tension of town life, lie within easy commuting distance of Glasgow's busy business district

Within 30 minutes of leaving a city centre office in Glasgow, a commuter can be at home in a Scottish glen or amid rolling fields, a world away from urban pressure and traffic jams.

One of the greatest attractions of the Strathclyde region is the proximity of unspoilt countryside to the conurbations of Glasgow and its satellite towns, such as Paisley, Motherwell and Bellshill. The heather-covered Campsie Fells overlook the city and it is possible to see the summit of Ben Lomond from many buildings in the centre.

This rapid transition from urban landscape to rural vista is one of Strathclyde's greatest assets. Anyone familiar with the tedious commuter journeys of London quickly welcomes the speed and ease with which even the most remote of locations in the region can

be reached. Good road and rail links mean that country towns, such as Lanark, or coastal communities, such as Helensburgh and Troon, are popular and viable residential locations for those working in the city.

Ayrshire, and particularly Ayr, has become popular with incomers from the south of England who have relocated to Scotland.

Nobody could sensibly suggest the whole of Strathclyde, stretching more than 100 miles from north to south, is within easy daily travelling distance of Glasgow.

Yet many people take advantage of the relatively low rural property prices to buy weekend homes in remote locations, such as south Ayrshire or Argyll.

The trend towards working from home in many areas of business is particularly suited to such locations. Many con-

sider the quality of life in Strathclyde's rural regions, with unrivalled views over sea or mountain, peace and quiet and relatively easy access to the rest of Britain, to be unique.

There are, however, some disadvantages which also have to be considered by those thinking of relocating amid this timeless and appealing

landscape. Supplies beyond those afforded by the local village store may be difficult to come by, petrol prices can be high and leisure and health facilities remote. Some parts of the region can be cut off by snow during a bitter winter.

But to anyone attempting to escape the ratrace, even that can be more of a blessing than a curse.

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Community spirit triumphs

Strathclyde is more than just the biggest region in Scotland. It is the largest local authority in Western Europe, governing a disparate population in 14,000 square kilometres. The authority's area stretches from southern Ayrshire through the central conurbation into the remote tracts of Argyll and many of the Scottish islands.

The regional council has been acclaimed for its sensitive approach to community problems and cultural differences ranging from those of redundant mining areas in Cumnock and Doon Valley to the problems encountered in reconciling conservation and development in the islands.

The new council, elected last month, is dominated by Labour. That is nothing new. The region has been under the Labour flag since its inception in 1975.

Fears that a one-party stranglehold could lead to the excesses of ideological extremism have been unfounded in Strathclyde. The administration, led recently by Charles Gray, has always appeared ready to work with the Conservative administration in the Scottish Office wherever possible.

The region has set up area offices, from Hamilton and Paisley on the Glasgow fringe, to the little lochside town of Lochgilphead in Argyll, to serve local interests. Its efficient and low-key management of services, such as education, roads, sewerage and water and social work, has become the role model for some other areas.

The administration's greatest problem yet may be in collecting the community charge, particularly in Glasgow, where non-payment is 30

per cent in certain areas. The council has not resorted to the ultimate sanction of warrant sales to collect almost £90 million owing at the last estimate, but this course of action is expected soon.

Any forced sale of assets will lead to vociferous opposition, not least from the Scottish

National Party and the anti-poll tax federations, which organised a blockade in Paisley last month to stop sheriff officers from moving in to assess goods liable for sale against debts. Even the strongest action appears unlikely to shake Labour support in one of its safest fiefdoms.

Govan Initiative Ltd

In 1986 Govan Initiative Limited was established by Strathclyde Regional Council, Glasgow District Council, the Scottish Development Agency and Glasgow Opportunities, a partnership between the public and private sectors, to regenerate the local economy. The Govan area is one of 1000 hectares (4 square miles) on the South bank of the River Clyde with a population of 29,000 which is working towards re-establishing its reputation as one of the main providers of jobs within the West of Scotland.

Since 1986, £200 million has been spent or committed to redevelopment, refurbishment, or new equipment or machinery in the area.

Located within 10 minutes of both the City Centre and Glasgow Airport, Govan is superbly placed to benefit from the recently announced Open Skies policy. New residential, industrial and tourist developments are all under construction and further developments, including business parks, are planned to maximise the opportunities presented by the increase in trans-Atlantic travel.

There is still considerable potential for additional investment

Govan Initiative is seeking to harness this potential and continue the economic regeneration of the area. It is doing this through a corporate strategy which embraces:

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- Secure Communities Project
- Development of the Arts
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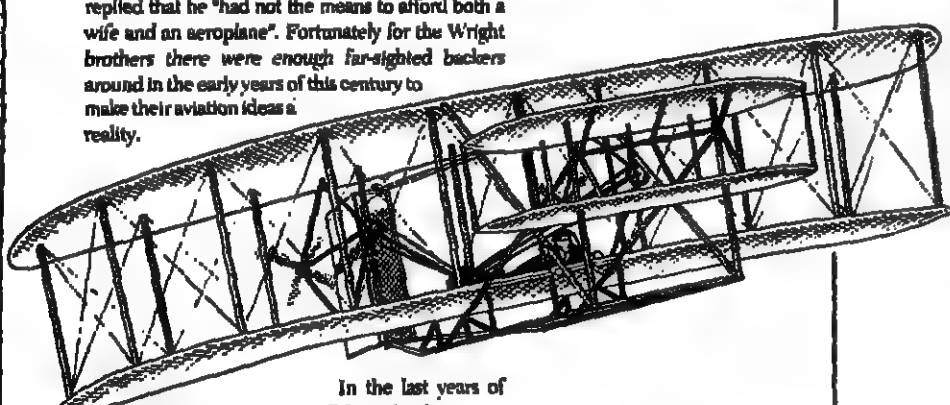
We invite you to come and see for yourself and would be delighted to show you the area.

For further information, contact: Mr Ron Colley, Director, Govan Initiative Ltd, Broomloan House, Ibrox Stadium, Glasgow G51 2YS Tel: 041 427 6066.



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They set us variety - you'll get plenty when you join this W1 television company. Working primarily on a 1-1 basis with the head of a dynamic sales team, you'll be putting your excellent secretarial skills to use. Can you cope with arranging dinners, meetings and lunches? Are you young and energetic? Yes? Then call us now! Ref: KG/C226.

OXFORD CIRCUS 071-255-3140

CONFERENCE PA

£13,000+ + + +

You'll need everything for this role, patience, charm, elegance, confidence and exceptional organisational skills! Why, because you'll be dealing with clients, exhibitors, marketers, contractors and management! A challenge beyond compare but you will need your secretarial skills as there's reports and letters to type. Total involvement will be rewarded with an excellent salary, 4 weeks holidays and the social scene attached to this sort of role. Ref: YW/C1.

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 071-734-5675

UTILISE YOUR SKILLS

£13,500

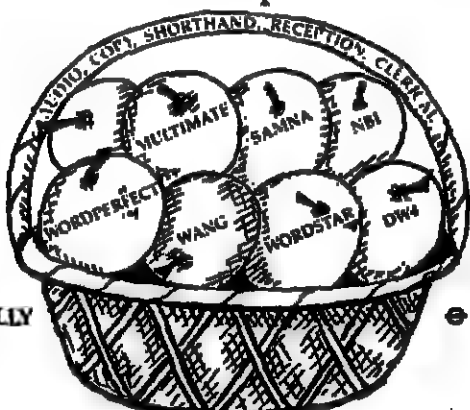
This worldwide company are seeking a PA Secretary/Office Manager. Your supervisory and interviewing skills will be utilised to their full potential as you will be responsible for ensuring junior employees and future recruitment of staff. Your administrative and organisational skills are essential when dealing with your day to day duties. Ability to produce and up-to-date computer skills are definite assets. For more details phone now! Ref: AM/C330.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE 071-225-1777

Going Places

TAKE YOUR PICK!

to £8.80 per hour.



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STREET

Join our temp team now
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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHAIRMAN

£15,000 - £17,000 NORTH LONDON

Established in 1988, the Centre for the Exploitation of Science and Technology seeks to identify future business trends and initiate the technology that will best serve its needs.

Now there's an opportunity to join this unique organisation at an exciting stage of its development.

As PA to the Chief Executive and the Chairman, you will handle a variety of secretarial duties, including the organisation and minuting of Board meetings, administration of the office and personnel with direct supervision of 3 secretarial staff. You will also assist in establishing new office facilities.

Aged 35-45, your sound relevant experience will be enhanced with meticulous organisational skills, and the ability to keep a sense of humour under pressure! Shorthand is essential.

The post is based in modern new offices in Islington, next to the Business Design Centre. Candidates should be non-smokers.

In the first instance please send full career details, including current salary, to Mr J R Gunning, Associate Director, Austin Knight Selection, 30 Soho Square, London W1A 1DS. Please quote ref 209/JRG/90.

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTORS ASCOT

Attractive salary & car

ILI is a dynamic, well established (we're 40), rapidly expanding publishing, book distribution and property company.

Our 2 directors (good delegators) need an intelligent 'hands on' Secretary/Manager (30-50) capable of making commercial decisions. You will have excellent administrative and leadership qualities. You will be responsible for 10 staff and £12M rental income. You should feel you have good communication abilities, tact and diplomacy as well as impeccable shorthand/typing.

To the right person (? a graduate) we can offer an excellent career and an exciting future in an outstanding environment. (If you live in East Berks, why travel to the City, or equally in West London, why not counter-commute?)

To find our more in strictest confidence, send you CV to the MD, ILI, Index House, Ascot, Berks SL5 7EU.

HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

SECRETARY TO SENIOR MANAGER £13,000 NEG
THE SUBJECT POST IS IMMEDIATELY VACANT IN THE
VICTORIA ST JAMES' PARK AREA.

IF YOU ARE OVER 24, ENJOY ORGANISING EVENTS AND
COMMUNICATING AT A RESPONSIBLE LEVEL - THIS WOULD
INTEREST YOU. SECRETARIAL PRIORITIES AS WELL AS
A MATURE AND PLEASANT PERSONALITY ARE NECESSARY.

GENEROUS LVS AND PENSION SCHEME ARE GIVEN.

PLEASE SEND CV TO: MISS DAUN GRANT
HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
50 BUCKINGHAM GATE, SWIRE HOUSE,
GROUND FLOOR, LONDON SW1E 6AJ
TEL: 071-828 1661
FAX: 071-828 9976

NO AGENCIES

LEISURE CO

£220,000

Confident and hard
working PA/Secretary
required by dynamic
chairman First class
organisational &
secretarial skills essential
as well as the ability to
laurel at senior level

071-238-6563
(Rec. Con.)
MAYHEW

NEW CONCEPT, NEW COMPANY, NEW MD SEEKS NEW SECRETARY/PA

c.£15,000

Barbican

Our client is launching an entirely new concept in the UK. The newly created British subsidiary of a US leader in consumer financial services they are introducing a new sophisticated service targeted at retail outlets in the high street.

The dynamic Managing Director of this exciting project now seeks an exceptional Secretary/PA to provide her with vital office support. She seeks someone with fast, accurate secretarial skills, good organisational ability, abundant initiative and the flexible, positive approach that is so vital when

setting up a new venture. The personality to deal with important clients and senior managers is essential.

For a bright and enthusiastic person, there is an attractive salary and benefits package and an excellent working environment in a young and lively team.

In the first instance, please telephone 071-436 7671 or write to Clare Lee at Stafford Long & Partners Recruitment Limited, 12-14 Whitfield Street, London W1P 3RD. Please quote reference 5353.

Stafford
Long
& PARTNERS

Secretaries/ Course Administrators £12,300-£14,160 plus bonus



Ashridge

The Ashridge Strategic Management Centre carries out research into the management of multi-business companies, publishes reports and articles and provides short courses and seminars for senior management. Established in 1987 its London office comprises a small team of staff who work closely with the staff at Ashridge Management College in Hertfordshire.

There are currently opportunities for two Secretaries/ Course Administrators to provide a secretarial and administrative service to the two Directors and to assist in the organisation of courses and conferences. For those with first-class secretarial skills (no shorthand) the posts offer involvement in a wide range of duties and scope to develop into an administrative role.

Please apply by sending a full CV and covering letter to: Sally Young, Administrator, Ashridge Strategic Management Centre, 17 Portland Place, London W1N 1AF. Tel 071- 323 4422 (No agencies).

SECRETARY Shorthand/WP 25+ Non-Smoker

An experienced Shorthand Secretary is required for two successful and friendly Property Directors based in the heart of Mayfair. Must possess initiative and be capable of dealing with Directors' personal arrangements. Neatness and good handwriting, together with a pleasant disposition and good personal presentation, are essential.

Knowledge of Wordperfect 5 will be useful together with simple, basic bookkeeping. Top salary available for the successful applicant

Please send C.V. or telephone in the first instance to:

Mandy Charalambous
16 Davies Street
London W1Y 1LJ
Tel 071 493 6666
Strictly No Agencies

Personnel-Management Consultancy

£13,400 + benefits

A bright, young individual with good WP skills needed to develop a role in personnel. Your initial responsibilities will include support administration but the opportunities to expand your experience are considerable.

Receptionist-PR £11,000 + benefits

An opportunity has arisen for an intelligent, highly motivated, organised Receptionist for one of Europe's largest PR firms. In your early 20's, you should be a good communicator with the initiative and the potential to take on management responsibility.

To discuss please contact Terry or Caroline on 071-629 7262

SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS 7 PRINCES STREET LONDON W1 7 2 1 6 2 9 7 3 5 2

THE SECRETARY

INTERESTED IN MEDIA AND DESIGN?

STYLISH PA - DESIGN
This demanding yet charming MD of a high profile Design Group requires an intelligent, enthusiastic and capable PA to play a support role to him. Good secretarial and organisational skills, with a keen eye for detail and the ability to liaise with major client companies, is essential. £16-£18K

TEAM SECRETARY - DESIGN
Young Account Director and Associate Director of this expanding and highly successful Design Co. seek a young, dynamic secretary to join their exciting team. £12-14K

SECRETARY/ADMIN - BROADCASTING
Young Broadcasting Co. are seeking a personable, bright and keen secretary to run their stunning office based in Farnham, Great Dorsetshire. £12K +

For further info on the above positions or to discuss your future career in Secretarial/ Admin within Media and Design, please contact Collette Murphy, The Secretary Recruitment Consultancy, First Floor, 50 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Telephone 071-629 9658. Fax 071 355 1135.

EXECUTIVE SEARCH

£20,000 + 2 bonuses + 5 weeks holiday

This charming Director seeks a bubbly, well spoken intelligent PA/Secretary (A levels or graduate) to work with him as part of a team helping develop relationships with clients and candidates. You'll need a good sense of humour, a high energy level, and be capable of doing several things simultaneously! Skills required: good audio and typing and a lively telephone manner. Age 27-32. Please telephone Diana Stevens.

King & Toben Tel: 071-629 9648

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS - Hampshire & Dorset, 10a Parklands, London W1V 9UT

Start Up Nr Uxbridge to £17,000

UK Chairman of an International Company is looking for a friendly and enthusiastic PA. The role involves setting up a new Head Office from scratch in a beautiful riverside location and acting as right hand to a professional businessman. You need to be flexible and a good communicator. Driver essential. Skills 100/60. Please telephone Jo Baskette on 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TEMP IN RECRUITMENT

As the Summer Season gets into full swing we need an enthusiastic, adaptable person to help in our office for 2-3 months. You will be self-motivated and willing, have good typing and WordPerfect experience.

If you thrive under pressure and would enjoy being part of our team dealing with permanent and temporary vacancies in the Arts and Media call us now.

JUDY FISHER
ASSOCIATES
071-437 2277
Recruitment Consultants

Expanding Advertising Agency requires

PA/MEDIA SECRETARY

Excellent typing skills.
numerate, fun, aged 20+

Salary c £12,000 (+ benefits)

Please phone Jo Bartlett on 071 833 5544 or write enclosing CV to HKR & Crinan Street London N1 9UF

ADMINISTRATOR REQUIRED - LUXURY FURNISHED LETTINGS CHELSEA AREA SW3

First class Administrator wanted to join a busy team listing luxury serviced flats.

The ideal candidate would:
* be experienced in lettings of a similar field
* use their own initiative and work enthusiastically to promote the services we offer
* be able to type
and be prepared to work hard for an attractive salary package.

For further information please phone 071-589-0086

INTERNATIONAL JEWELLERS

We are looking for a self motivated secretary/P.A. with good organisational and typing skills to run the office at this luxury Bond Street showroom.

Knowledge of wordperfect and some French an advantage. Salary negotiable to £11,500.

If this sounds like you please send C.V. and photo to Maria Bernard

178 New Bond Street London W1.

Min Secretary TOP SEC

£15,000 21+

Join the firm of international architects in the City/Globe area. Working closely with the design team, you will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. You will need a good sense of humour, a high energy level, and be capable of doing several things simultaneously! Skills required: good audio and typing and a lively telephone manner. Age 27-32. Please telephone Diana Stevens.

071-287 0570

FINE ART VALUER

Needs a mature & presentable PA with WP skills. N/smoker.

Salary neg aae.

Tel: 071-603 8741

Portfolio Administrator

To £14,000 + benefits

Challenging, non-secretarial position offered by our client, an influential, highly-recommended name amongst investment Fund Managers. As Portfolio Administrator, you will be assisting 2 Managers in the administration of client portfolios; keeping them up-to-date; preparing presentations; liaising with their Zurich office (languages useful). 'A' level Maths and a keen interest in the Stock Market needed. Excellent presentation, confident liaison skills and the ability to work in a pressured team environment vital. Basic keyboard skills and a sharp analytical mind taken as read. Age 21-25. Call 071-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

A country house hotel...

Sloane Square

A superb support role working at senior level is offered by a successful, rapidly-expanding American concern managing exclusive country house hotels in the British Isles. An excellent time to join and really make your mark, as you assist the very dynamic, equally charming Managing Director's PA. Sound communication skills, flexibility and speed of learning in this fast-paced, but friendly environment will not go unnoticed! Accurate 55 wpm typing essential. Age 20-35. Very attractive offices in beautifully converted house. Salary to £12,500. Good prospects with further planned expansion. Call 071-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

Stockbroking success...

£14,000+ - Personnel

Independent, long-established firm of City stockbrokers offer a meaty, high-profile role in Personnel. You'll be providing efficient secretarial/admin support to the senior Personnel team and handling confidential employee-related work. Other responsibilities include the maintenance of personnel records; holiday, sickness, new starters, payroll reconciliation, fielding enquiries, organising starter packs, P4s and reference letters. Skills (70/60) needed in this all-encompassing role. Experience in a service-related environment highly desirable. Age 22-45? Good with people? We need to talk soon on 071-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

A Mayfair base...

To £14,000 + benefits

Super opening for a self-motivated, forward-thinking individual with this go-ahead Mayfair Property Company. You'll be a key member of a busy, expanding department - working closely with 2 Associates - whose workflow tends to come in peaks and troughs; organising views; liaising with VIP clients; co-ordinating very full diaries; collating particulars etc. Great location and a busy, young, social environment. No shorthand. Unfathomable 60 wpm typing skills needed. Age 23-26. To know more call 071-493 0713 today.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

MANPOWER

WHEN ONLY THE BEST
IS GOOD ENOUGH

Junior Secretaries
to
Experienced PA's

We have a range of interesting and prestigious permanent positions to match your secretarial skills and expertise. The rewards are excellent the positions varied and benefits wide ranging.

Thinking of changing?

Call 071-486 7865.

Temporary and Permanent
Manpower makes the difference.

CJES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

3 London Wall Buildings,
London Wall, London EC2M 6PJ
Tel: 071-638 8887 or 071-638 3556
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 071-255 8501

Opportunity to utilise secretarial and administrative skills.

SECRETARY/PA. TO LEGAL ADVISER

LONDON SW1 £14,000-£16,000 NEGOTIABLE

LEADING INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

Applications are invited from well-educated candidates aged 25-40 with accurate secretarial skills, including shorthand, good administrative ability and a minimum of five years' experience at senior management level, ideally within a legal environment. The Legal Adviser is responsible for the Group's U.K. legal requirements and the person appointed will be expected to provide full secretarial and administrative support. There will be considerable contact with main board members, UK and overseas offices as well as within the department, necessitating excellent communication skills. Applicants should possess an excellent standard of English, an eye for detail, initiative and a high level of commitment. Preference will be given to those living in Central London and non-smoking is essential. Initial salary will be in the region of £14,000-£16,000 plus contributory pension scheme, subsidised health insurance, free lunches, 24 days holiday and season ticket loan. Applications in strict confidence under reference SPA770/TT to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS), 3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 6PJ (AND KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE). TELEPHONE: 071-538 8587 OR 071-538 3558. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 071-255 8501

ROYAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Secretary/Personel Assistant
Up to £13,153 pa.

An opportunity for an efficient and flexible Sec/PA to work with one of our senior executives.

Besides ensuring the smooth daily running of his office, this varied and challenging role involves assisting with conference arrangements. Occasional U.K. travel will also be required. The successful candidate will be experienced in audio, shorthand and WP and will possess excellent communication/inter-personal skills.

Based in modern, air conditioned offices near Waterloo, benefits include flexi-time, 25 days holiday and subsidised staff restaurant.

For an application form and further details, please write, quoting ref. no. SEC/1 to Vivienne Murch, Personnel Manager, RPSGB, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN or telephone 071-735 9141 ext. 373 (Answerphone available). Closing date: 11 July 1990. Smoking is actively discouraged. No Agencies

071-481 4481

SECRETARIAL

071-481 4481

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

LAUSANNE, SUISSE SECRETAIRE EXECUTIVE

Organisation internationale non gouvernementale cherche à pourvoir poste de secrétaire exécutive de nationalité britannique parlant français et anglais (langue maternelle), français et espagnol. Bonnes bases d'anglais. Doit être disponible à voyager et prête à assumer responsabilité professionnelle. Répondre par écrit avec curriculum vitae à Mme Gross, c.p. 1374, CH-1001 Lausanne.

GOOD FRENCH & GERMAN?

YOU'RE IN FASHION..

The Export Manager of this large Fashion House is looking for a Secretary/PA (possibly a college leaver) to liaise with customers and suppliers, and give 50% administrative/50% secretarial support (some SH). Salary £9,000 + 5 weeks holiday and excellent clothes discount.

FLUENT ARABIC?

NO SHORTHAND

If you can speak & type Arabic, you could be ideal for this new role as Administrative Assistant in a Publishing House. Working for the Editor in Chief in this friendly and informal atmosphere, you will be using your typing/WP skills to work on reports and get really involved. c£13,000 + benefits.

International Secretaries
174 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9TB
071-491 7100
Fax: 071-491 3071

LANGUAGE RECRUITMENT SERVICES LTD

GERMAN LEGAL: Bilingual PA/Sec to Solicitor of Int. Law Co. Very much an Assistant's role offering lots of involvement & int. liaison (other large units). £15,000 +.
SPANISH IN MADRID & LONDON: Several vacs for Spanish Bilingual Secs (Eng/Span) with prestigious Int'l Banks in Madrid & London. Must be confident & able to use initiative. £14,500 + pkg.
GERMAN MARKETING: Bilingual PA/Sec to Dir of Int'l Marketing Co. Lots of involvement, run office in Dir's absence, poss. travel inv. £13,000 + pkg.
FRENCH PROMOTIONS: Bilingual PA/Sec (SH) for project work with renowned Promotions Group. Lots of liaison with German Art. Bilingual PA/Sec (French useful) for hectic div. of Int'l Art Co. Eng/Span. £12,000 + pkg + exp. pkg.
COLLEGE LEAVES: Many vacs in PUBLISHING, MEDIA, SPORT, BANKING SALES etc. for Secretaries with German, Spanish, Italian & French skills. £12,000 +.
ITALIAN BANKING: Bilingual Secs (Spanish/Italian pref) for responsible post with Int'l Bank. £14,000 + pkg.
LANGUAGE RECRUITMENT SERVICES LTD
Tel: 071-287 0424 Fax: 071-437 4131
25/26 REGENT ST., LONDON W1R 9JY

Whichever language you speak, you'll find we speak yours.

Elizabeth Hunt are the acknowledged specialists in multi-lingual recruitment. Our consultants will gain a thorough understanding of your requirements before suggesting the best course of action. And with our wide range of blue-chip clients, you'll never be stuck for choice. So, whichever languages you speak, talk to Elizabeth Hunt on 071-408 0247.

Elizabeth Hunt RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

Recruitment Consultants

FRENCH: enthusiastic Secretary (early 20s), fluent in French, to work for French manager and his team. Good skills and perfect English. £11,500.
GERMAN: Bilingual Secretary (perfect German, fluent English, excellent skills) to work with Anglo-German legal team which advises British firms investing in Germany. Around £14,000.

071 836 3794

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

MONEY GO ROUND £20,000 p.kg
New successful cash & commission range of benefits in the UK, Ireland, Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, etc. Call today for more information.
JNR SEC £15,000 + (17-)
Ideal opp for an enthusiastic young woman with French to break into the legal sector for an enthusiastic young man. Call today for more information.
EUROPEAN TRADERS £15,000 + b.p.kg
Exciting opportunity for a bilingual secretary with French to work for a European trading company. Call today for more information.
HIGH FINANCE £16,000 + m.p.kg
Exciting opportunity for a bilingual secretary with French to work for a high finance company. Call today for more information.
PLEASE TELEPHONE 071-408 2264 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

abbatt BILINGUAL RECRUITMENT

GERMAN/English/French PA to MD in the MD to £17,000 is sought for a successful cash & commission range of benefits in the UK, Ireland, Spain, Italy, France, Germany, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, etc. Call today for more information.
JNR SEC £15,000 + (17-)
Ideal opp for an enthusiastic young woman with French to break into the legal sector for an enthusiastic young man. Call today for more information.
EUROPEAN TRADERS £15,000 + b.p.kg
Exciting opportunity for a bilingual secretary with French to work for a European trading company. Call today for more information.
HIGH FINANCE £16,000 + m.p.kg
Exciting opportunity for a bilingual secretary with French to work for a high finance company. Call today for more information.
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EXECUTIVE CRÈME

SPECIAL PERSON

18K-23K

OFFICE MANAGER /
CUSTOMER SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

To join an expanding software company based in London SW3.

The job involves managing the office and supporting our customers on the telephone and keeping our support staff informed to ensure that our clients receive superb service attention and backup.

THE QUALITIES REQUIRED ARE:

- HIGHLY ORGANISED IN WORKING METHODS
- INTELLIGENCE AND FLEXIBILITY
- FLUENT AND POSITIVE TELEPHONE MANNER
- ABILITY TO QUICKLY ESTABLISH EMPATHY
- INSTANT RAPPORT ON THE TELEPHONE

TELEPHONE KARIN HASTINGS

071-376 4753/5125

SUPER SECRETARIES

MARKETING MIX to £15,000

Create a comprehensive information library, arrange meetings and travel and handle your own correspondence in this varied role within a top direct marketing agency. Previous marketing experience essential. Excellent benefits and training in Lotus 1-2-3.

PLEASE CALL 071 439 2777.

ALEXIS

Move into Management £15,000

Attend management meetings, liaise with clients worldwide and use your organisational skills to the full as you assist the easy-going MD of this advertising-related company. Director level background and 80/50 skills vital. Superb prospects.

Please call 071 439 2777.

ALEXIS

ARE YOU A SECRETARY? The secret of the success of the young team of secretaries is their ability to handle the most demanding tasks with a calm and efficient manner. We are looking for a young woman to join our team. She should be a native English speaker, have a good command of French, and be able to handle a high volume of work. She should be able to work independently and be a team player. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. Please call 071 439 2777.

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Auctions give some sellers a hammering

Vendors are slow to see that their reserve prices may be too high

With a cry of "Lot seven: once more on to the beach, dear friends", Simon Rigall, of the auctioneers Conrad Riblat, called for bids for 76 acres of surfing beach in St Ives Bay, Cornwall.

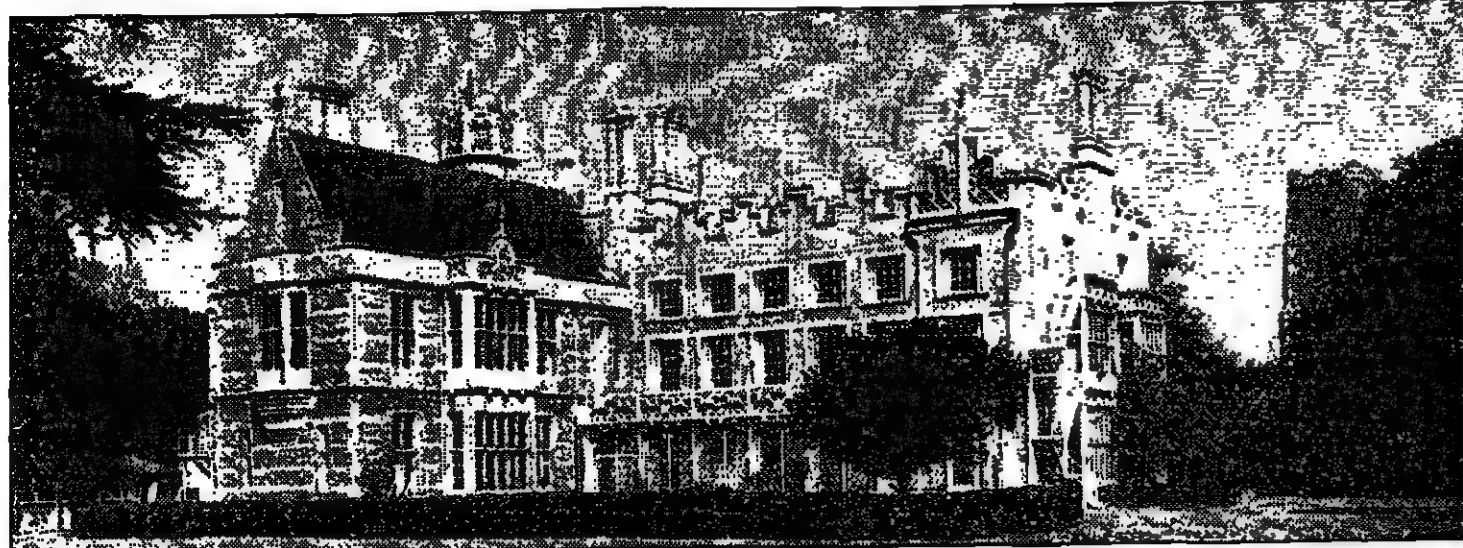
His reason for introducing the lot in this prettily phrased way at an auction earlier this month was that at the firm's previous auction the beach had been sold for £45,000 to a man whose cheque was not honoured by his bank.

A bounced cheque is a rare occurrence in the world of property auctions, and the surfing beach sold for £41,000 at the second time of asking.

This cautionary tale comes from a sector of the property market that is having difficulties, as is the rest of the market. Clive Carpenter, of auctioneers Allsopp & Co, says that even in this "bear market" a strong market still exists, but has been slow to respond to changed conditions.

He explains: "The learning curve has taken about a year as vendors come to terms with reality. They have been loath to sell in a bear market after buying in a bull market, so prices have changed slowly."

That has meant fewer properties going on sale, and a lower proportion of the lots being sold. Allsopp, instead of selling 90 per cent of the



Orton Hall, at Orton Longueville, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. The Grade II listed hall, with 20 acres, has a guide price of £1 million

lots when they are offered at auction in normal times, is selling about 70 per cent. Mr Carpenter says that if vendors accept that prices are lower and set a realistic reserve, the properties will sell. In the smaller market, a "flight into quality" has been made, Mr Carpenter adds.

Auctions have therefore been

having mixed success. Last month Allsopp sold more than 60 per cent at its two-day sale, worth more than £38 million. Barnard Marcus sold 57 per cent of its part-residential, part-commercial catalogue, which prompted the auctioneer Robin Cripp to suggest that the "tide may be turning" with the builders and developers

coming back into the market. Mr Carpenter has also seen the return of some of the professional auction buyers who have been absent for the past 18 months. There is now a sizeable minority of buyers from overseas, about 15 per cent, from Hong Kong and Scandinavia mainly, and offshore companies, including a smattering

from east Africa. The commercial property auction is, he emphasises, a fundamental part of the property market, without which commercial property would be a comparatively "illiquid" asset. Cash is the most liquid or saleable asset, followed by gilts and equities, and then such assets as paintings and property.

Mr Carpenter says: "An auction makes commercial property a liquid and saleable commodity within a small time-scale, more so than sale by private treaty, which is subject to delay and gazumping, for example."

Property auctions are particularly important for the mass market of secondary property and property investment. In the 1960s and 1970s, most sold by private treaty. Mr Carpenter says: "In 1990, it is financially impossible to market that type of property through the private treaty process. The auction enables us to market 100 properties properly."

At its next auction, on July 9 and 10, Allsopp, with Healey & Baker, is offering what the firm believes is the largest lot to come under the hammer. The Langney shopping centre at Eastbourne, East Sussex, has two supermarkets and 26 shops among its tenants, and total annual rents of nearly £900,000. With a guide price of £9 million, it could become the most expensive single lot.

The 120 lots to be offered produce an income of more than £6.24 million a year. One of the most notable is Orton Hall, at Orton Longueville, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, which is being sold by the county council. Set in 20 acres, the Grade II listed hall was formerly a residential school, and the planning brief by Peterborough city council suggests it is suitable for conversion to a rest home, nursing home, training centre, corporate headquarters, offices, hotel or country club, or single residence. Orton Hall has a guide price of £1 million.

Meals for high-flyers

Wiltshire Design and Management, part of the Wiltshire group, has won the contract to build a new airline kitchen at Heathrow for British Airways at a cost of £25 million. The catering base will provide 29,000 passenger meals a day for BA's short-haul flights, in what is claimed to be the world's most advanced unit of its kind. The 175,000 sq ft building, which includes a mezzanine office floor, as well as the huge kitchen and food-handling halls, has been commissioned by Heathrow Airport with the support of BAA's property company, Lynton. The site, on the southern perimeter road, is due for completion in 70 weeks.

The latest stage of the £16 million Quay West development at Trafford Park, Manchester, topped-out last week, will provide 79,000 sq ft of offices on nine storeys. It is being built by Ship Canal Investments, a joint development company of the Manchester Ship Canal Company and GR Morris Construction.

Speyhawk has sold St Anne's Court in Dean Street, Soho, London, to Scottish Widows Life Assurance Society for about £11 million. The 20,000 sq ft building, developed by Speyhawk, is occupied by the advertising agency Gold Greenlee Trotter at £325,000 a year. The sale follows closely on Speyhawk's sale of its office development in Cannon Street, confirming the company's view that buyers continue to be interested in high-quality office schemes in central London. Jonathan Strong, managing director of Speyhawk Investments, comments that the decision to sell Dean Street was part of a plan to rationalise the company's investment portfolio.

Too much floorspace is now the problem

AN OVERSUPPLY of industrial floorspace in England and Wales is predicted in a report by the property consultant King & Co, which reports that the amount available has risen 18 per cent in the last year and that the rate of increase is rising.

The firm's survey shows that more than 83 million sq ft was available at the end of April, a rise of more than seven million sq ft in four

months and 12.54 million sq ft in the past year. London and the southeast have been particularly hard-hit because these areas have accounted for half the increase in the first four months of the year, leaving nearly 33 million sq ft available in the regions.

King & Co concludes that the news is "grim" for most of the country, although the total availability figure remains low compared with

most of the 1980s, and the rate of increase is slower than during the early 1980s recession.

The survey provides an accurate indicator of the strength of British industry, King & Co says, because it reflects the actual take-up of floorspace rather than companies' plans. It suggests the south could be feeling the effects of the present economic squeeze more than the northern regions.

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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, UNITS A & B, STEPHENSON ROAD, EASTWOOD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ESSEX.
Freehold Reversionary Industrial Investment. Comprising two single storey interconnected industrial buildings plus two storey office and ancillary accommodation. Reviews from 1991.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £109,250 P.A.X.

PARK ROYAL, 304 ELYSDON PLACE, PARK ROYAL TRADING ESTATE, GREATER LONDON NW10.
Freehold Warehouse/Office Premises adjacent to North Circular Road. Comprising substantial self-contained two storey office building to the front and extensive single storey warehouse accommodation to the rear plus yard to the side and rear with two loading bays on Elysdon Place.
FULL VACANT POSSESSION
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £14,000 P.A.X.

PETERBOROUGH, LYONS DEPOT, CARR ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
Freehold Reversionary Distribution Depot let to major covenant. Comprising single storey distribution/light industrial depot with two storey ancillary office accommodation, extensive parking and loading area on site together with diesel pump and underground storage tanks. Expires 1992.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £6,750 P.A.X.

WANDSWORTH, 362 OLD YORK ROAD, GREATER LONDON SW18.
Freehold Self-contained Office Building on ground, lower ground and two upper floors with detached two storey office/workshops to the rear having separate side access from Edgel Street.
FULL VACANT POSSESSION
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £14,000 P.A.X.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, 55 OXFORD STREET, AVON.
Freehold Retail Investment let to National & Provincial Building Society. Comprising a shop on ground with two upper floors of self-contained office accommodation and small rear yard. Review 1995.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £14,000 P.A.X.

GREAT MALVERN, THE TUDOR HOTEL, WELLS ROAD, WORCESTERSHIRE.
The hotel consists of two buildings linked by an enclosed bridge at ground floor level. There are 31 bedrooms, with an suite facilities arranged on ground, first and second floors. In addition there are a range of public function rooms.
FULL VACANT POSSESSION
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £237,575.50 P.A.X.

SOUTHSEA, 115, 115A & 117 ELM GROVE, HAMPSHIRE.
Freehold Retail/Residential Investment part let to Grand Metropolitan plc. Comprising two ground floor retail units, one with basement and ancillary office accommodation plus a private club and guesthouse on ground, first, second and third floors. Reviews from 1992.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £13,650 P.A.X.

WELWYN GARDEN CITY, LONGCROFT HOUSE, FRETHERNE ROAD, HERTFORDSHIRE.
Substantial Reversionary Leasehold Retail/Office Investment. Comprising two large retail units, two showrooms and petrol filling station on ground floor with self-contained first floor offices and twelve flats above. Reviews from 1990.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £237,575.50 P.A.X.

READING, 16/18 LONDON STREET, BERKSHIRE.
Freehold Office Investment let to Guardian Royal Exchange. Comprising three storey office premises with rear access and parking for 17 cars including 4 covered spaces. Expires 1998.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £96,000 P.A.X.

LIVERPOOL, 2A DERBY LANE, OLD SWAN, MERSEYSIDE.
Freehold Retail Investment let to National & Provincial Building Society. Comprising single storey retail premises with rear yard and access. Review 1995.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £14,000 P.A.X.

BECKENHAM, 24/26A HIGH STREET, KENT.
Substantial Freehold Reversionary Parade. Comprising four shops with showrooms on ground with offices, restaurant and smoker hall above, rear access and parking for approximately 10 cars. Reviews from 1990.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £99,450 P.A.X.

TWICKENHAM, 47 CROWN ROAD, ST MARGARETS, MIDDLESEX.
Freehold Reversionary Retail/Residential Investment. Comprising three shop units with four flats above plus car parking to the rear. Reviews from 1994.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £21,075.60 P.A.X.

SELBY, 31 GROWTHORPE, NORTH YORKSHIRE.
Freehold Retail Investment let to National & Provincial Building Society. Comprising retail unit on ground with first floor ancillary accommodation. Review 1995.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £12,500 P.A.X.

NOTTINGHAM, 6-14 CATTON ROAD, AINFIELD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
Freehold Industrial Investment. Comprising modern parade of single storey light industrial units each with ancillary office accommodation, full height loading doors and forecourt. Reviews from 1991.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £36,350 P.A.X.

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FULL VACANT POSSESSION
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £11,500 P.A.X.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, 46-50 CAIR LANE, HUMBERSIDE.
Long Leasehold Retail Investment. Comprising shop on ground floor. Lease expires 12th June 1990. Negotiations are in hand for a new 15 year lease at a rental of £30,000 P.A.X.
CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £11,500 P.A.X.

SWANSEA, 10 UNION STREET, WEST GLAMORGAN.
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CURRENT GROSS INCOME: £11,500 P.A.X.

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A meeting with Italy in the World Cup quarter-finals holds no fears for Jack Charlton and the team everybody loves to hate

Republic reap rewards of relentless hard work

Rapallo

JACK Charlton and his assistant, Maurice Setters, sat at the post-match press conference in Genoa smoking their cigars. The rest of the world could think and say what they liked, but the Republic of Ireland had truly arrived.

Indeed, the Italians, who were about to defeat Uruguay in Rome, will not doubt be half sick with worry at the prospect of attempting, on Saturday, to deal with the team that almost nobody can beat and almost everybody, except the deliriously celebrating Republic supporters, feigns to dislike.

Ireland are not so much the flavour of the month as the infection of the month, and every other team is afraid of catching it. If Charlton's platoon of indefatigable runners do to the host nation what they have done to England, the Netherlands and now Romania, this will be a nation in mourning on Sunday. It may happen.

"Change our tactics, why should we?" Charlton reflected, as the toasts and the congratulations tumbled over each other into the early hours of a sultry night at the team's hotel here on the Italian Riviera. "We have to impose our game on them, and let them work out what to do about us. No opponent, so far, has been able to.



DAVID MILLER ON THE WORLD CUP

It is complained that the Irish do not play the ball creatively through the middle of the field. That is not possible because Houghton, McGrath, Townsend and Sheedy are not stylists but four of the most exceptional workers in these finals.

They simply do not let the other team play: not by illegal means, but by denying them space in the way that has been happening since the days when Malcolm, of West Ham, used to bottle up Haynes, to the more recent times when Gullit, not so gently, would suffocate Maradona by close marking.

Ireland's tactics forced Romania's midfield of Hagi - shadowed relentlessly by Townsend - Rotariu and Sabau to go so deep in search of space that Ireland always had time to assemble their defence in front of any Romanian attack. Hagi was forced to shoot from long range; when he was on target, the estimable Bonner was in superb form in goal.

"I was worried about Romania for 20 minutes, they

did their preparation on us very well, inviting us to come at them and then knocking the ball in behind us on the flanks, but, after a quarter of an hour, I got a grip on things," Charlton said.

"Of course their technique is better than ours, they're happier on the ball (than we are) and I was concerned beforehand about Hagi. But we managed, and will do the same against Italy. Our game is very difficult (for us) because it demands so much running."

Houghton, Townsend and the rest ran as never before on Monday evening. It is remarkable how Charlton is able to inspire so much from relatively ordinary players. McCarthy, from Millwall, was, as Charlton said afterwards, superb in central defence; Morris, the Celtic right back, attacked and defended with equal distinction; young Quinn, late of Arsenal and now of Manchester City, improves with every match.

The single oddity in this football odyssey is that Charlton, so pragmatic in every other way, should have continued a pedantic antagonism for two seasons towards David O'Leary, the player who now had the momentous responsibility of taking the final match-winning penalty.

O'Leary refused to give up a planned family holiday in order to accept Charlton's late call-up for a summer tour in 1986, and thereafter was ignored for two seasons, missing 30-odd caps and the European championship. Finally, he was recalled in the autumn of 1988 for the rare defeat against Spain in Seville.

When he came on in extra time in Genoa, it was his first taste of the World Cup finals. Charlton told him to go out as a centre back when Staunton was injured, but O'Leary said he thought he could do better at left back than Moran, and the manager accepted his suggestion.

When the players came to take the penalties, they were all agreed that O'Leary should take the fifth, the man with all that experience at Highbury. He took it with the air of a veteran. "Like the veteran he is," Quinn joked afterwards.

"We get on OK," O'Leary said afterwards, without rancour, of his relationship with Charlton. Here was a man just happy to be part of things, the distinguishing characteristic of this united, cheerful and optimistic squad that is so similar to those Irishmen from north of the border who laughed their way through Sweden 32 years ago.



Hail the hero: Bonner, the goalkeeper, celebrates his penalty save with Townsend

Pressure is lifted by penalty shoot-out

From CLIVE WHITE

WHATEVER qualities the Republic of Ireland may be lacking when they step into the lion's den at the Olympic Stadium in Rome, on Saturday, courage will not be among them. After the game of Russian roulette they played with the Romanians here on Monday, when they held their nerve to win 5-4 on penalties, the quarter-final against Italy promises to provide them with one of their least tense experiences of this championship. The pressure is clearly off the Irish.

Nothing can take away from them their achievement of qualifying for the last night of an important championship for the second time in succession.

Two years ago in the European championship finals, the Irish held the eventual winners, the Netherlands, until the 82nd minute before succumbing to a goal of dubious merit. Who is to say that Italy, no better than the Dutch of two years ago, will find the obstinate, unchanging Irish style any easier to overcome?

Obviously, those of us present in the Luigi Ferraris stadium will recall Bonner's heroic anticipation in saving from the desperately unfortunate Timofte, and the strength of character of O'Leary in converting the winning penalty. But I will also remember Moran's act of sportsmanship when he painstakingly shook the hand of every Romanian player before the penalty kicks began.

Charlton, who watched the shoot-out on the giant video screen because, he said, his vision of the real-life drama was obscured, revealed that he left the choice of the first five penalty-takers to the players. He said that he asked Sheedy, who took the first penalty, where he was going to place the ball. Sheedy, apparently replied: "I'm going to bash it right over his (the goalkeeper's) head."

And that's exactly what he did," Charlton said.

Thereafter, both sides converted their penalties without undue difficulty until, at 3-3, Bonner got a hand to Lugovoi's shot but was unable to prevent the ball from entering the net.

Immediately afterwards, Casarino came frighteningly close to having his kick saved. And then Timofte, who had come on as a substitute during extra-time, inexplicably signalled his intention by standing at an acute angle to the left of the ball.

The Irish victory was not without some physical comedy. Lugovoi injured an Achilles tendon in a mistimed tackle on Hagi, for which he was booked, and is now doubtful for the quarter-finals, as is Staunton, who also withdrew from the action, with a hamstring injury.

The logical replacements are Casarino and Houghton, the latter thoroughly deserving an appearance on the world stage in the twilight years of a distinguished career.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND (1-4-4-2): 1. P. Bonner (Genoa); 2. G. Moran (Blackburn); 3. M. McCarthy (Millwall); 4. M. Moran (Blackburn); 5. D. O'Leary (Aston Villa); 6. D. McGrath (Aston Villa); 7. P. McGrath (Aston Villa); 8. A. Houghton (Liverpool); 9. A. Casarino (Aston Villa); 10. A. Casarino (Aston Villa); 11. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 12. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 13. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 14. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 15. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 16. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 17. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 18. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 19. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 20. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 21. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 22. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 23. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 24. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 25. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 26. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 27. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 28. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 29. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 30. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 31. M. Quinn (Manchester City); 32. M. 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Success for British women's tennis as another seed falls at the All England championships

Wild-card Gomer puts seeded Maleeva to flight

By DAVID POWELL

THE great British has theory got to work at Wimbledon yesterday. You wait long enough for one then two arrive almost together. This time, though, it was British tennis hogging the road. And just when we thought the service was no longer running.

After Sarah Loomer, from Cardiff, had put out one seed on the first day, Sara Gomer, from Torquay, removed another on the second. These are the first British successes over seeds in singles since Anne Hobbs beat Zina Garrison in 1986.

When Gomer was last seen at Wimbledon, she had tears on her cheeks. Last year, she was denied victory over the No. 8 seed, Pam Shriver, by a mistaken line call. She blew three match points and was beaten. "It took me a long time to get over that," Gomer said yesterday. Not long enough, Manuela Maleeva would say.

Maleeva, Bulgarian-born but competing for Switzerland, has been as high as No. 3 in the world. Gomer tends to be known for her height — at 6ft 2in she is second tallest women on the circuit — rather than the heights she has reached in the rankings. On court two yesterday she made a nonsense of being 180th on the computer against Maleeva's No. 8.

Gomer, a wild card entry, won 6-2, 6-3. "It's the first time I have beaten a top-ten player and to win one at Wimbledon is an added bonus," she said. Usually it is tautologous to say added bonus. Not in this case, because the bonus was that



Gomer was playing at all. A virus at the start of the year raised questions about her future in the game. She even took a coaching course just in case her career was over. "We didn't know what the virus was and I was told it could take a couple of years to clear. I didn't know if there was any point in going on, so it seems incredible that I am sitting here at Wimbledon talking about my biggest win."

One more win and Gomer's ignominious sequence of 22 grand slam tournaments without reaching the third round will be over. For the other British women in first round



Gomer: overcame virus

matches, however, there was only frustration.

Belinda Borneo was unable to take any of her four match points and lost to Carrie Cunningham, of the United States, 4-6, 6-2, 11-9. Clare Wood was beaten by another American, Anne Smith, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2. Julie Salmon went out to the Australian, Anne Minter, 6-2, 6-2 and Samantha Smith lost to Zina Garrison, of the United States, 6-2, 6-1.

The British men fared no better. Nick Brown was removed by Johan Anderson, from Australia, but only after a tie-break which had the drama of the Republic of Ireland's shoot out with Romania. With the third set, and the match, at stake, Brown saved three match points but wasted three set points before Anderson took the tie-break 14-12 and the match 6-4, 6-2, 7-6.

Andrew Castle's five-sets shoot out with Mats Wilander was four years ago. It seems longer. That was the day Castle played like a knight, but the armour he wore in valiant defeat is rusty. Yesterday the lance went straight through him.

At the end of play on Monday evening Castle, a former British No. 1, had been one set all with Sergi Bruguera, of Spain. Castle soon lost on resumption, however, going down 6-7, 6-4, 6-3, 6-1. Chris Bailey was another British loser, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 to Mark Koevnerman, from the Netherlands.

Mary Joe Fernandez, the No. 9 seed from the United States, scratched from Wimbledon yesterday with a knee injury.



Frustrated Briton: Borneo was unable to take any of her four match points

Lendl faces serve and volley test

By RICHARD EVANS

TO WIN Wimbledon, Ivan Lendl knows he has to serve and volley. The same does not apply for Monica Seles, the 16-year-old French Open champion, who has not had time to adapt her back-court game to the accepted style required for grass.

Women's tennis, though catching up with the men, can still be dominated on any surface by someone who has had off the ground. Seles did just that against Maria Strandlund, of Sweden, on court one yesterday, winning 6-2, 6-0.

Strandlund is a product of the younger generation, though at 20 she is hardly a youth by today's standards. A good serve and solid ground strokes with a forehand that would have frightened players of the 1970s suggested that her world ranking could rise from 85.

Hitting hard is futile against Seles, Monica thinks pace is fun and she toyed with much of it, creating angles of her own and wrong-footing the Swedish player in unexpected ways. Occasionally Seles would seize an opportunity to come into the net off a short return and when she did the point was completed with an effective volley. Perhaps she should have tried it more often. There is, after all, nothing like practice under proper competitive conditions, but it may not be necessary. It will get harder later on for Seles.

She showed yesterday that she can win on grass just playing her natural game.

Gómez outgunned in smash and Grabb raid

By REX BELLAMY

ANDRÉS Gómez, seeded No. 5, was beaten 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 by Jim Grabb in an hour and 42 minutes at Wimbledon yesterday. Gómez is the first player since Mats Wilander, in 1985, to win the French championship, and little more than a fortnight later, lost in the first round at Wimbledon. He was going home, he said, "to watch the rest of the tournament on television and pretend I wasn't here."

It is never much of a surprise when a player excels on the slow clay of Paris but fails to make an adequate transition to grass the same month. Gómez was not ready for Wimbledon: not ready mentally, not ready technically, not ready in terms of footwork. "I like to play on grass but I didn't feel comfortable on it," he said.

"I was a little tired and didn't get enough time on grass. I was struggling with my serve and struggling with my return. He played well and I didn't. Jim has a good game and moves well at the net."

Gómez comes from Ecuador and has a long-term interest in shrimp farming, which is not the obvious alternative job for a tennis player. Grabb's home

environment, Tucson, is more familiar because the re-created golfing town of Old Tucson is used for films and television series.

Come to think of it, Grabb and Gómez would not look out of place in a shoot-out at Old Tucson. Both are dark, quiet, 6ft 4in tall (unusually tall for a tennis player), and the kind who invite teasing. Grabb looks slightly the leaner and hungrier, the more in need of some decent food.

These are the breed who — simply suited, and bulging at the armpits — hover watchfully around presidents and premiers pressing the flesh on public walkabouts. There was never even a hint that any rally would detain us long. Briefly, I took an average of shots per rally. The average was two.

This reminded me of a friend who said that the first time Wimbledon was televised in the Alpine village that was home, the locals could not believe they were watching tennis. "It n'y a pas d'échanges" (there are no rallies). That was how it was yesterday.

Gómez lost the first point of the match with a foot fault, which was not promising. We noted that Grabb deftly ex-

plored the angles as one expects such a respected doubles player to explore them. He was soon serving and volleying tidily, too, and testing the shrimp farmer's notoriously suspect backhand.

One break gave Grabb the first set. Gómez loosened up in the ninth game, reminding us how hard he can hit his ground strokes, especially the forehand. But his only chance to take charge came in the second game of the second set, when he engaged a higher gear and had three break points — all lost.

In that set Grabb, much the sounder, broke through twice. On the second occasion with the help of another Gómez foot fault that was instantly succeeded by an irritable double fault, Gómez scored only four points in the first four games of the third set. He broke back once, blazing away on the backhand, but by that time one suspected that his attention was wandering towards dinner or, perhaps, the World Cup.

"I felt I was going to win," Grabb said. "But not by a ridiculous score like that." Maybe he forgot his roots. In Tucson, they used to drop their men fast — or get carried off to Boot Hill.

Impressive opening by the youngest Maleeva

By BARRY WOOD

MAGDALENA Maleeva, aged 15 and the youngest of the three sisters from Sofia, made an impressive Wimbledon debut yesterday, defeating one of last year's women's singles finalists, Catarina Lindqvist, 7-6, 6-2.

Having forsaken the usual path of following the junior circuit, Maleeva had the crowds milling around the court. This caused her some surprise and produced a few early nerves. Once they were banished Maleeva was on her way.

She was assisted a little by Lindqvist who, while pretending aggression, is merely a paper tiger. She is a gentle spirit, which is not necessarily a bad thing, except on a tennis court.

Although Lindqvist took advantage of any short ball she was offered, there was little consistency to her game and her backhand found the net far too often.

Chief Inspector Ray Dunne, the head of police operations for Wimbledon, said no added security measures had been taken in the wake of the Carlton Club bombing.

"This is a large sporting event and we take the precautions we normally take," Dunne said.

"I thought about it, but you can't go through life worrying about things like that," Adelaide Woodward, from California, said. "If it happens, it happens."

Woodward was outside the Carlton Club an hour before the incident.

But the possibility that Wimbledon would be a prime location for terrorists to act didn't scare away the Woodward or other tennis supporters.

often. She lacked a killer instinct while Maleeva did not, and so Lindqvist became the victim of the Bulgarian's greater commitment.

Slight but strong, Maleeva is able to hit her ground strokes with considerable pace and confidence. She hit deep, too, to keep Lindqvist from the net, where she was most effective, but her solid serve was the key to the match.

"I can't stand it when I can't break serve. It made me so angry," Lindqvist said. "I really wanted to win, but I returned her serve so badly. It's my most disappointing defeat this year, because I like Wimbledon so much."

Maleeva had done her homework and was aware of Lindqvist's Achilles' heel. "I knew she wasn't a very big fighter, and that kept me going," she said.

Security remains same

POLICE said yesterday they were being cautious but planned no special security measures at Wimbledon in response to the bombing of the Carlton Club.

Tourists, meanwhile, said they were concerned by the events but not enough to stay away.

"I thought about it, but you can't go through life worrying about things like that," Adelaide Woodward, from California, said. "If it happens, it happens."

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SAILING

Rothmans look to wind gods in quest of Ireland's record

By BARRY PICKTHALL

AFTER she had pulled more than 250 miles ahead of the main fleet in the Round Ireland Race, the wind gods dashed hopes on board Lawrie Smith's maxi. Rothmans, yesterday that the multi-hull record for the 704-mile circumnavigation might be broken.

Instead of returning to Wick before 10.25 am yesterday, we on board Rothmans sat glued to a painted sea just south of Belfast. The only tension in the air stemmed from the arrival of Rothmans' Whitbread rival NCB Ireland, which, carried on a series of private zephyrs, pulled back more than 20 miles to join us at dawn at a tidal gate east of Belfast loch. We had been there since 3 a.m., unable to break through the slithering waters until the ninth attempt, three hours later.

NCB made four abortive runs and, to the amusement of the lighthouse keeper, ran aground on an unseen rock before breaking into the lead. The mood changed on board Rothmans to one of speechless determination as Smith took command of the wheel. Two hours later, he had the Irish maxi tucked safely astern once more.

I shared his frustration. In 20 hours we have covered just 61 miles, against 500 during the previous 48 and with the speedometer still stubbornly registering less than three knots, doubts grew on whether we could beat Denis Doyle's 88-hour race record which has stood for six years.

It was not until late yesterday that the fitful breeze that most other yachts in this race have been enduring since Sunday began to "fill in", bringing with it a fresh optimism that we might still take the title from Doyle's 51-foot yacht Moonduster.

As the seven-knot breeze swung round to the north-east to push us south at a similar speed, today's deadline of 4.15 a.m. to complete the final 80 miles was being provided by the wind gods remain in our favour overnight.

There was no wind and therefore no racing yesterday in the University team racing match between Oxford and Cambridge this week at Cowes. The Cambridge protest against Oxford over an alleged infringement during Monday's race was dismissed, leaving Oxford winners in the only race completed so far in the best-of-seven series.

Racing in the third round of the Finlandia UK Squib national championship at Cultra, Northern Ireland, finally got under way in a light northerly wind after postponement due to the entire fleet having to be towed from their moorings to the race.

T. Salmor's Graveling held his lead to take line honours from R. Knatchbull's Harvey in second place. There were numerous changes in placings on another day of close racing.

POLO

Santa Fe equal to trophy challenge

By JOHN WATSON

THE challenge for the high-goal Dorchester Trophy — the proceeds from which went to the charity SANE — was played over five chukkas at Smith's Lawn yesterday between Windsor Park, who received 1/2, and Santa Fe, who won 5-2½. Windsor Park were, however, depleted by injury.

Because their player-patron, Geoffrey Kent, had been recently thrown and rolled on, and their Argentinian, Marlin Tessa, had suffered a broken arm, another Argentinian, Salvador Socas, stood in, with Rod Guttridge, of Zimbabwe.

Their eight-goal Mexican, Victor Galindo, was positioned at two with Socas at three, and they had have fired better with a different permutation.

Socas and Guttridge, like Galindo, were mounted from Kent's string of ponies, to which they were unaccustomed. The second Elliott's Santa Fe, the winners earlier this month of the prestigious Queen's Cup, may be deploying the most effective line-up at the high-goal level this summer. Their aggregate team handicap is 23, the lowest in the top limit, which is explained by the fact that their Argentinian No. 3, Juni Croto, has just been promoted from eight to nine.

But yesterday, he was closely marked by Galindo.

Santa Fe were almost ceaselessly on the attack during the first two chukkas, which kept Windsor's staunch back, Prince Charles, exceptionally busy spinning goal-shots, and the clock ran over half way through the second before Santa Fe opened their account.

Windsor's solitary 1/2-handicap advantage remained on the scoreboard until early in the fourth chukka, when Socas and Galindo combined to find the Santa Fe flag. When it was 5-16 in the last, Guttridge got in a long, fast, galloping shot at goal that was picked up by Galindo, who struck the target again to narrow Windsor's deficit.

The second encounter, which was a league match for the Warwickshire Cup, ended in a 7-6 victory for Laborgore (received four) against Kenilworth. SANTA FE: 1, A. Hume (5); 2, C. Croto (5); 3, J. Croto (5); 4, Socas (5); 5, J. Croto (5); 6, Socas (5); 7, J. Croto (5); 8, Socas (5); 9, J. Croto (5); 10, Socas (5); 11, J. Croto (5); 12, Socas (5); 13, J. Croto (5); 14, Socas (5); 15, J. Croto (5); 16, Socas (5); 17, J. Croto (5); 18, Socas (5); 19, J. Croto (5); 20, Socas (5); 21, J. Croto (5); 22, Socas (5); 23, J. Croto (5); 24, Socas (5); 25, J. Croto (5); 26, Socas (5); 27, J. Croto (5); 28, Socas (5); 29, J. Croto (5); 30, Socas (5); 31, J. Croto (5); 32, Socas (5); 33, J. Croto (5); 34, Socas (5); 35, J. Croto (5); 36, Socas (5); 37, J. Croto (5); 38, Socas (5); 39, J. Croto (5); 40, Socas (5); 41, J. Croto (5); 42, Socas (5); 43, J. Croto (5); 44, Socas (5); 45, J. Croto (5); 46, Socas (5); 47, J. Croto (5); 48, Socas (5); 49, J. Croto (5); 50, Socas (5); 51, J. 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McEnroe goes out without a whimper

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

By ANDREW LONGMORE,
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

A TAME backhand into the net brought an era to an end on the centre court yesterday. After years of harsh words and brilliance, of genius and outrage, John McEnroe suffered the worst defeat in his 12 years at Wimbledon, beaten 7-5, 6-4, 6-4 by Derrick Rostagno, a Californian better known for his freewheeling lifestyle and his confused nationality.

In defeat, McEnroe was utterly defiant. "I'd like to think I'll be back again next year and I'd like to think this is just the beginning. The game has come so naturally to me that I haven't had to work at it. Now I do and I want to give it my best." If only, he had shown that sort of steel on court.

McEnroe might be back next year, still trying to reach that elusive fourth Wimbledon title, still trying to find the perfection that many feel he touched in the 1984 final against Jimmy Connors, but at the age of 31, his days of glory must now be over.

It is only the second time he has been beaten in the first round at Wimbledon. The first was by Erik Van Dillen 12 years ago, the year after he had reached the semi-final against Connors on his Wimbledon debut. Even then, he only lost in five sets. Yesterday, apart from the odd glare and an argument over the cyclops, the electronic line judge which has traditionally been the American's bugbear, there was nothing to suggest that McEnroe 1990 had anything to do with previous models.

Admittedly he had asked a lot of his talent, arriving barely a fortnight before the tournament and struggling desperately to make up for lost time in the Stella Artois at Queen's where he reached the semi-final before losing to Boris Becker.

Before that week, he had not played a competitive match since February because of a shoulder injury and a plain lack of commitment to the game. The latter was more to blame for his defeat yesterday than the former.

All of which is to take nothing away from Rostagno,



More Wimbledon
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who said last week that spectators should not come to his match just to watch McEnroe. "There will be two players out there," he had warned.

The truth of his statement began to dawn only towards the end of the third set. Until the moment the loose-haired American drove a forehand pass down the line to break to 3-2, the belief that the old talent would flow back sooner or later had overridden the evidence of the eyes. After all, just this time last year, the old warrior had come back from two sets down to beat the Australian, Darren Cahill, and gone on to reach the semi-final. After all, hadn't Rostagno missed a match point against Boris Becker at the US Open last year?

Both were true, but the real truth was that McEnroe no longer had the will or the touch to survive. If there was an angled pass to be made, Rostagno made it, if a volley clipped a line, it was Rostagno's volley. The only thing McEnroe won throughout the two hours and 32 minutes of the match was an argument with the umpire.

In the fourth game of the second set, at deuce, Rostagno, ranked 119 places below his fellow-American, served an ace, which McEnroe thought was long. After protest by McEnroe, the call was changed and the cyclops turned off. Both decisions riled Rostagno, who put down his racket to make his point more forcefully to the referee, Alan Mills, and the supervisor, Ken Farrar. Finally, after several minutes, order was restored by the umpire, Stephen Winyard, and the point was replayed, which did not please the crowd.

"Everything McEnroe asked him to do, the umpire did," Rostagno said. "I think he might have been a little afraid of him."

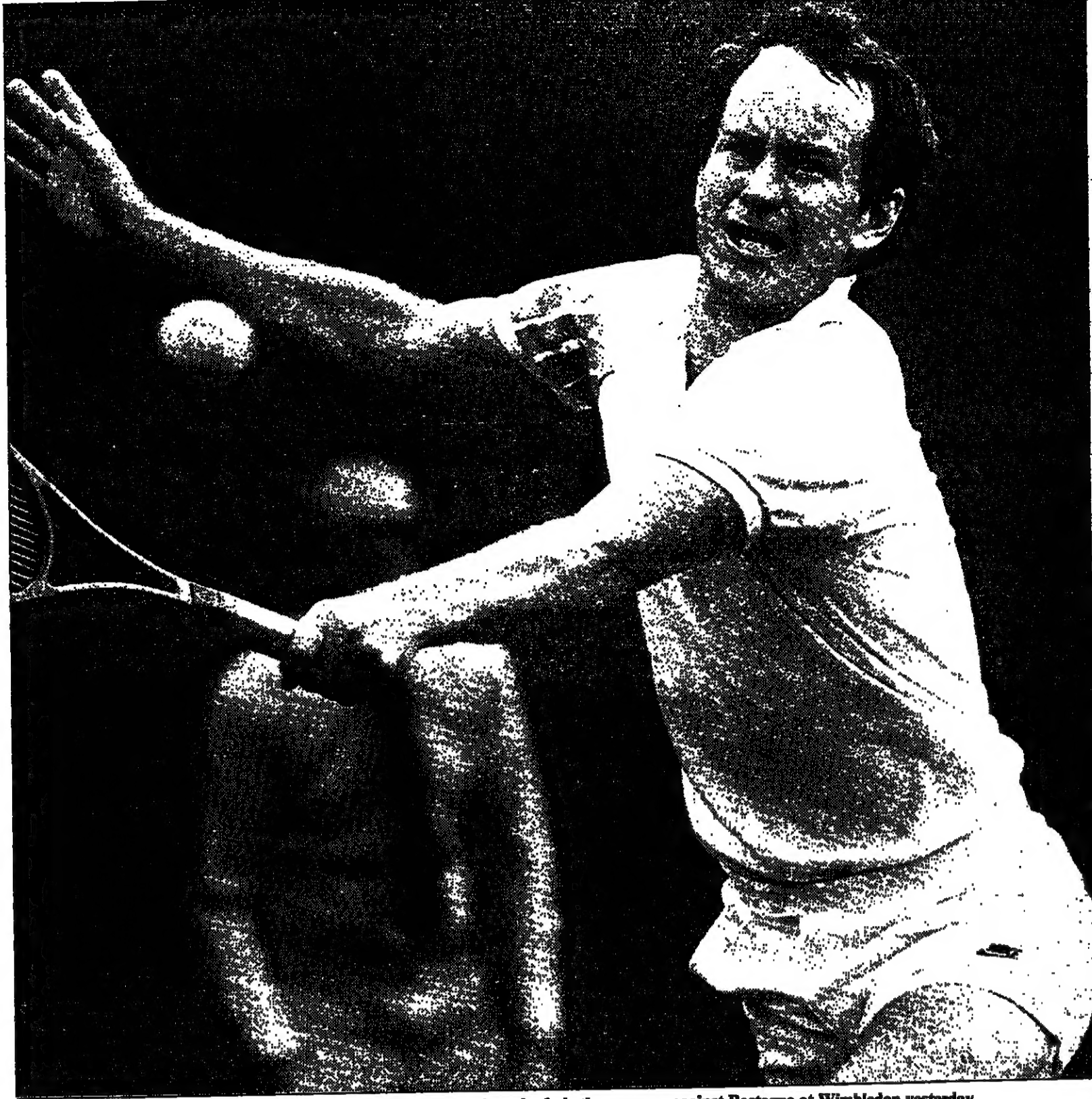
If McEnroe felt that the disturbance would upset Rostagno's concentration and put fire in his own belly, he was mistaken. The pattern of the match continued undisturbed, Rostagno weaving the thread, McEnroe trying with increasing desperation to unravel it. All that was left by the end of it was the shreds of a great player as Rostagno, who boasts ancestral connections with Italy, Argentina, Germany, France and America, calmly served out for the best win of his career.

Though none was as illustrious, not to say notorious as McEnroe, four other men's seeds went out as if in sympathy. In order of rank, they were Andrés Gómez, Tim Mayotte, Pete Sampras and Petr Korda.

None were outrageous surprises and one, the defeat of the young American Sampras by Christo Van Rensburg, was positively signposted. Despite his record of never going past the fourth round at Wimbledon, Van Rensburg is a cunning grasscourt player, who reached the final at Queens last year before losing to Lendl.

He never hurries and his staccato game, full of delicate angles and probing volleys, was too much for Sampras, who was only playing his second match at Wimbledon. Last year, he was beaten by the Australian Todd Woodbridge, this year he was doubly unfortunate in being saddled with the expectations of being the number 12 seed and in being drawn against a man of Van Rensburg's quality. The learning curve was too steep for Sampras, who at 18 still has plenty of time left to absorb the special lessons of Wimbledon.

Tim Mayotte's reputation as the eternal quarter-finalist was ruined by Gary Muller, who beat him 4-6, 7-5, 7-6, 6-3. Muller won a Harley-Davidson motorcycle at a golf tournament in Indianapolis last year. He sold it to Derrick Rostagno.



End of the road: McEnroe out of ideas and words as he feels the pressure against Rostagno at Wimbledon yesterday

Gooch appointed for the series with India

GRAHAM Gooch was last night appointed England cricket captain for the next Test series against India in the second half of the summer.

The England committee issued a statement saying: "Graham's leadership has been keenly positive throughout the first two Tests against New Zealand." But that positive side was not so obvious after the second Test fizzled out into a draw at Lord's yesterday.

"We had a few hiccups," Gooch said. "Our performance, both in batting and bowling, was not as good as it could be. There

is room for improvement. "We want to try to take the last match, but to do it we must raise our game. We have to do that in order to beat New Zealand."

He said that certain individual performances were encouraging, notably that of Neil Fairbrother, who made a Test-best 33 not out after an abysmal start to his England career.

"He will be more relaxed now he's got a few runs under his belt," Gooch said.

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Lesson in finishing from Stojković

From CLIVE WHITE
IN VERONA

Spain.....1
Yugoslavia.....2

(act - score after 90min, 1-1)

THE lavish £7 million investment that Bernard Tapie, the president of Marseille, has recently made in Dragan Stojković, making him one of the most expensive players in the world, looked briefly like money well spent here yesterday when two pieces of ingenious finishing took Yugoslavia into the quarter-finals of the World Cup.

Yet, Stojković's excellence and extra time apart, this was not a game which raised the temperature greatly. Even in the fierce heat of the afternoon.

Indeed, it was not until Stojković scored in the 77th minute that Yugoslavia seemed to have any serious intention of winning. To simply things, Spain lost it largely because the player they call "The Vulture", Butragueño, suddenly mislaid his predatory instincts.

Twice Yugoslavia were in trouble, at the mercy of Butragueño's famed killer instinct, but, on each occasion, his finishing left much to be desired. In the opening minutes, he seized quickly enough upon a rebound off Ivković, the Yugoslav goalkeeper, following a stirring run and shot from Martín Vázquez, but he pulled his shot miserably wide from an angle which would normally have presented him with any problems.

With bizarre timing, the Spaniards were poised to substitute him at the very same moment that Stojković gave a stunning demonstration in how to finish. Despite the crude attention given Vujović by Sanchis, the Yugoslav still



The fall guy: but the tumbling Stojković, of Yugoslavia, was the match-winner over Martín Vázquez, of Spain

managed to dig out a splendid cross which Katanec nodded on at the near post. Stojković, at the far post, killed the cross, waited for one Spanish body to slide by and then stabbed the ball in his second movement past Zubizarreta.

It almost seemed unfair that a player so rich in all the skills necessary for a midfield player to ply his trade should possess such a talent for scoring goals, too.

There were times early on when Stojković seemed too self-indulgent, though such criticism seems churlish now.

Inevitably, it was left to Martín Vázquez, a player whom César Menotti has predicted will become the greatest player in the world, to drag Spain back into the match six minutes later.

There were times when it appeared that the Spaniards' spirit of adventure could win the game for Spain, and here again, he fearlessly entered that painful area of the field where matches are won and lost. The cross he eventually hammered over, though, gained from a deflection off the heel of Spasić, slowing the

ball up sufficiently for Salinas to make the connection at the far post.

The idea that a Spanish victory now beckoned in extra time died within two minutes of the restart. Savićević, a second-half substitute who had already done enough to secure his starting place in a future World Cup tie, won a free kick 20 yards.

In the absence of the Brazilians, now departed from the competition, Stojković took it upon himself to demonstrate the beauty and the cunning of the banana shot, which he

curled wickedly around the wall and wide of Zubizarreta.

SPAIN: 1 A Zubizarreta (Barcelona); 4 G Arrese (América); 14 A Górriz (Real Sociedad); 5 M Sánchez (Real Madrid); 21 Chendo (Real Madrid); 21 Michel (Real Madrid); 15 Roberto (Barcelona); 6 Martín Vázquez (Real Madrid); 11 F Pérez Villaverde (Real Zaragoza); 19 J Salinas (Barcelona); 9 E Butragueño (Real Madrid); sub: R Paz (Sevilla).
YUGOSLAVIA: 1 T Petrović (Spartak Leningrad); 2 P Stojković (Spartak Leningrad); 3 P Stojković (Spartak Leningrad); 10 D Stojković (Marseille); 13 S Katanec (Spartak Leningrad); 14 V Vukobratović (Spartak Leningrad); 15 D Borošević (Mestiz); 16 D Josić (Cesena); 17 D Petrović (Red Star Belgrade); 18 D Savićević (Red Star Belgrade); 19 Z Vujović (Paris Saint-Germain); 20 R Spasić (Paris Saint-Germain); 21 Z Vujović (Paris Saint-Germain); 22 V Vukobratović (Spartak Leningrad); 23 A Schuster (WG).

Thanks to Scottish followers

SCOTTISH supporters were thanked and congratulated by the Scottish Football Association (SFA) for their excellent behaviour during the World Cup in Italy.

The SFA secretary, Jim Farry, said that the chief police officers of Genoa and Turin, where the Scottish fans had been based, had expressed their delight at the behaviour of the supporters and the friendliness they had shown towards the Italian people and supporters of other teams.

"Many other Italian people in all walks of life also spoke highly of our ambassadors and there is no doubt they have brought credit to our country," Farry said.

"It is most gratifying to know that some 18,000 passionate Scottish supporters can attend the World Cup finals and receive such praise. There is absolutely no doubt that our supporters have further enhanced their reputation."

● Bryan Robson, the England captain, is to go into hospital for surgery on the Achilles tendon injury which forced him to return home early from the World Cup finals.

The Manchester United midfielder player, one of the BBC television panel in London for the England match against Belgium last night, said: "I will be going in for an operation today and I am hoping to be fit by the start of next season."

● ROME: A group of Italian youths celebrating Italy's 2-0 victory over Uruguay scuffled with police early yesterday and damaged cars, police said (AP reports). One officer was slightly injured and five youths were taken into custody.

Contented Vicini counts Italy's latest blessings

MARINO (Reuter) — The early injuries to key players, Gianluca Vialli and Roberto Donadoni, may prove to be a blessing in disguise, the Italy coach, Azzeglio Vicini, said yesterday.

Vialli, the forward, and Donadoni, the midfield player, have resumed training with the squad and may be fit — and fresh — to join the side in Saturday's quarter-final against the Republic of Ireland in Rome.

"If Vialli and Donadoni

recover well and Italy go on in the competition there could be an advantage for us," Vicini said, explaining that some of his other players were tired after the 2-0 second round victory over Uruguay in Rome on Monday.

"Their training with the others has been very positive and it seems likely that they will be fully fit tomorrow but we will only know for sure after tomorrow's training."

Vialli, once the nation's best forward, but blunted first by a

loss of form and then by a thigh injury, has not played since Italy's second match in the group stage, against the United States. He has seen the newcomer, Salvatore Schillaci, steal his thunder.

Donadoni, of AC Milan, Italy's most useful man in midfield, twisted his knee in the closing first-round match against Czechoslovakia and had to miss the game with Uruguay.

Despite the loss of Vialli, the Italian attack has looked impressive with Schillaci

teaming up with Roberto Baggio and, on Monday, the substitute, Aldo Serena, to produce some superb goals.

The secret, Vicini says, is that Italy, chasing a record fourth World Cup, have a glut of talented attackers with different skills to suit every occasion.

"Of our five or six attackers there aren't two who are the same," Vicini said. "If you look at a team from another country, especially from a northern country, they can change their attackers but

their type of play is always the same."

Vicini had particular words of praise for Schillaci, scorer of three goals in Italy's four matches so far. It was Schillaci who broke the Uruguayan resistance after 65 minutes and Serena added the second five minutes from the end. "Schillaci has done more than we ever could have hoped for," he said. He has always played well, irrespective of the goals he has scored."

ITALY (1-2-5-2): 1 W Zenga (Internazionale); 2 F Baresi (AC Milan); 3 G Bergami (Internazionale); 4 L Di Agostini (Juventus); 6 R Font (Internazionale); 7 P Maldini (AC Milan); 10 M Berti (Internazionale); sub: A Serena (Inter Milan); 11 F De Napoli (Napoli); 13 G Giannini (Roma); 15 R Baggio (Juventus); 16 R Vercellotti (Marseille); 20 R Perini (Dinamo); 18 C Aguilera (Genoa); sub: R Sosa, Ugo Lazzari; 19 D Fossaca (Milan).
Referee: G Courtney (England).

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